

# THE ATHENÆUM

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1909.

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## Societies.

ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY.  
(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)

The ANNIVERSARY MEETING will be held at 7, SOUTH SQUARE, GRAY'S INN, W.C., on THURSDAY, February 18, at 8 P.M., when the PRESIDENT will deliver an ADDRESS.

H. E. MALDEN, Hon. Sec.

THE FOLK-LORE SOCIETY.—The NEXT MEETING of the SOCIETY will be held at 22, ALBEMARLE STREET, PICCADILLY, on WEDNESDAY, February 17, at 8 P.M., when a Paper, entitled "Head-Hunting Tribes in the Hills of Assam," will be read by Mr. S. R. HODSON. The Paper will be illustrated by Lantern Slides.

11, Old Square, Lincoln's Inn, W.C., February 8, 1909.

## GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

The ANNIVERSARY MEETING of this SOCIETY will be held at the SOCIETY'S APARTMENTS, BURLINGTON HOUSE, on FRIDAY, February 19, at 6 o'clock.

The Fellows and their Friends will DINE together at the WHITEHALL ROOMS, HOTEL METROPOLE, at 7.30 P.M. Tickets to be obtained at the Society's Apartments.

LONDON TOPOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.—The TENTH ANNUAL MEETING of this SOCIETY will be held on FRIDAY, February 19, 1909, at 6 o'clock P.M., in the LECTURE THEATRE, BURLINGTON GARDENS, W.

The President of the Society, the Right Hon. the EARL OF ROSEBERY, R.T., will give the ANNUAL ADDRESS.

Invitations to the Meeting may be obtained from the Secretary, BERNARD GOMME, 32, George Street, Hanover Square, W.

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1909.

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## LITERATURE

*Joseph and his Brethren.* By Charles Wells. (Frowde.)

More than thirty years have now gone by since Charles Wells, at the age of seventy-six, came up a second time for judgment with his dangerous credentials in his hand, and was admitted by good judges to a reserved seat among the immortals. Dangerous the credentials certainly were, however convincing they might be destined to prove to the ultimate judgment of his fellow-men. An anonymous volume of 'Stories after Nature,' betraying a careful study of Boccaccio and Bandello and too strong a leaning to some of the characteristics of poetry for a safe prose style, he himself did not again submit to public judgment after the treasurable little book had failed ignominiously in 1822; but 'Joseph and his Brethren' he was prevailed upon to offer a second time, notwithstanding the stone-deaf indifference to its unusual merits shown by his coevals in 1824 on its pseudonymous first appearance. There the danger lay in the ostensible subject and the very title—'Joseph and his Brethren, a Scriptural Drama'; for who could expect to find in a "Scriptural Drama" a transfiguration of the would-be adulteress known as Potiphar's Wife into a figure of such splendour as to recall to more than one critic the name of Shakespeare, and also to point once more the moral that in the eye of what our forefathers called "the Muse," as in the eye of Mother Nature herself, there is no such thing as absolute evil or absolute good?

However, on this occasion the power and grace of that sublime miscreant whom Wells created and called Phraxanor—qualities which had carried no convic-

tion in 1824—were destined to go home to the mark; for when, in words which he wrote to a friend, he "determined to try Phraxy again," being counselled thereto by very high authorities, the breadth and distinction of the book were generally recognized; and Wells took his place among the English poets. As Matthew Arnold said of another poet intimately acquainted with Wells in his youth, "he is with Shakespeare"; and Wells is similarly placed by a great poet. It is true that Wells's second advent had been marked by significant premonitions: in literal verity there had been for years one voice—scarcely more—crying in the wilderness that a lost poet was waiting to be, not so much found as manifested to all English-speaking people; it is true that, though never echoed from the housetops, that solitary voice had penetrated many hundreds of voiceless souls, and had been taken up and echoed from the high places whence those to whom the direction of the public taste belongs, or should belong, are wont to make themselves heard; but these premonitions by no means discount the certainty of Wells's permanence in English literature; in reality they enhance it, unless the proverbial phrase "to make assurance doubly sure" be after all as empty of meaning as it is popular.

The voice crying in the wilderness was that of Gabriel Rossetti; but according to Mr. Watts-Dunton it was the clarion of a younger poet—one who, by the by, had dedicated his own first volume to the elder—that carried conviction to the heart of a publisher when it had failed to convince the editor of a monthly magazine no less distinguished than *Fraser's*. In the interests of the just apportionment of glory let us say at once that the publisher was Mr. Andrew Chatto, then the young successor of John Camden Hotten, and the editor James Anthony Froude.

It is interesting to learn that Mr. Chatto, on seeing in manuscript the now celebrated essay by Mr. Swinburne on Wells, told Mr. Watts-Dunton that the scheme of republishing 'Joseph,' which had been broached to him, would be materially assisted if the aforesaid clarion were sounded through the medium of the press; and we do not doubt that Lord Morley counts among his honours that of having given a place to Mr. Swinburne's paper in *The Fortnightly Review*. There, at all events, it appeared, in the number for February, 1875, from the pages of which it was transferred to the second edition of 'Joseph and his Brethren,' published by Messrs. Chatto & Windus in the early part of 1876.

The time has passed, and the generation has well-nigh passed, to which belonged the duty of reviewing formally Wells's poem as revised after half a century of neglect. That agreeable duty was performed, so far as our own columns are concerned, in the issue of February 5th, 1876; and in that of April 8th, 1876, we had the pleasure of printing an interesting signed communication from Mr. Theodore Watts (now Watts-Dunton) on the resuscitated poem and its author.

Much of that contribution has been absorbed into the forty pages headed 'Rossetti and Charles Wells: Reminiscence of Kelmscott Manor,' which Mr. Henry Frowde has secured, together with the permission to reissue Mr. Swinburne's introduction, in adding to "The World's Classics," not strictly a new edition of 'Joseph and his Brethren,' but a handy reissue of the long out of print and now expensive edition of 1876. We heartily congratulate Mr. Frowde and the multitude for which he caters upon this No. CXLIII.: we do not hesitate to predict that the present generation, whom Mr. Watts-Dunton accuses of knowing nothing of 'Joseph and his Brethren,' are going to receive gladly a book which at its lumpiest—for it is issued in several styles—can be slipped into almost any reasonable pocket, and acquired for a shilling.

We think Mr. Watts-Dunton is a little too sweeping in his statement of the case against the present generation if he really means to convey that 'Joseph' has gone under again. But if he only means that the book is "a Shiloh no longer" in the literary circles which have followed those of 1876, well and good. The 'Joseph' of 1824 did not sell at all—went, so to speak, to the knacker's yard for literary failures: the very scarcity thus created was among the influences that made the poem itself a Shiloh in the third quarter of last century; but the complete absorption of the 1876 'Joseph,' which made it in its turn a book not quite easy to get, implies that it has been a living influence spread about amongst two generations of book-makers, book-buyers, and book-readers. With the remnant of the generation of Josephites of that third quarter, 'Joseph' wears well: Mr. Swinburne, whose extraordinarily instructed enthusiasm or enthusiastic erudition—we know not which term to prefer—guided him when quite a youngster straight to the verity about the relations of 'Joseph' to other literary phenomena, stands by his early deliverance now that, over seventy years of age, he holds unquestioned supremacy among our living poets; for here we have his introductory essay scarcely modified, if at all. Mr. Watts-Dunton is as enthusiastic about Wells as ever; and Mr. Buxton Forman (whose revision and editorship of the 1876 'Joseph' are chronicled in this new edition as the work of "the best of all authorities upon subjects pertaining to Wells, or indeed to any member of his remarkable set") is, we believe, contemplating, with unabated admiration of the poem, the issue at no very distant time of a version embodying the remarkable additions made by Wells between 1876 and his death in 1879.

Mr. Watts-Dunton's contribution to the book adds to the pages in which he has revived the familiar talk of a brilliant circle. We might cull many delightful passages from these Rossetti reminiscences. The following epigram of the poet-painter is so apt and instructive that we need not name the man concerning whom it

fell from Rossetti's lips: "The finest *raconteur* has often to be the finest liar to keep up his credit." Hear, O noble army of fine *raconteurs*: believe and tremble! Then there is a charming story about Rossetti's reception of the news that Potiphar's wife was more or less whitewashed at the hands of Jāmi and other Persian writers; about his refusal to touch the subject even from the Persian point of view, and his speculation whether Morris could do anything with it—which, indeed, Morris in a certain sense did in 'The Glittering Plain,' where the legend of the dream-lover of a certain princess is exquisitely rendered. But all readers of any pretension to thorough acquaintance with English poetry should get this little pocket 'Joseph' and assimilate its contents at first hand. One word of caution: there is a change in the text at p. 130 which we are not disposed to pass unchallenged. In the editions of 1824 and 1876 Phraxanor calls Joseph

Thou laughable affection of man's form!

Mr. Watts-Dunton, true to a criticism of his own when reviewing the 1876 book in *The Examiner*, nearly thirty-three years ago, substitutes "affectation" for "affection." Now when Wells prepared the copy for the 1876 edition, using the 1824 print as a basis, he had been very busy all round that line: the printed page (139) is full of manuscript alterations; and much of this important scene is interpolated in small manuscript papers laboriously written. He must clearly have read the scene over and over again; yet he let "affection" stand. Again when he went over the 1876 volume for the unpublished third edition, he worked extensively on the scene, and once more the printed page (140) containing this line has a good deal written upon it. The passage in Phraxanor's speech stands finally thus, with three new lines:—

Thou laughable affection of man's form!  
A snail is less tenacious of his horns  
Involving and dissolving in themselves  
Sloth, and his pace swifter than you to ove.

It seems to us characteristic of Wells's primeval instinct to use the word "affection" in this place in the old sense in which it was especially applied to "the assumption and ostentatious display of deceitful appearances."

Mr. Watts-Dunton touches on the relations between Wells and Keats, both strained and unstrained—as regards the strained, very lightly. We doubt whether it is any longer needful or even desirable to use any softening disguise about the bitterness of Keats's feelings towards Wells after the villainous practical joke which the younger man—Wells was five years younger than Keats—played upon the elder's brother Tom. The case was notoriously one of unfeeling and unprincipled deception. Keats not only cut Wells, but also vowed vengeance on him. The elaborately "cruel hoax" of the bogus lady ("Amena") in love with Tom, the discovery of which had so desperate an effect on the consumptive boy, stands recorded in Keats's letters as published

literally from the holographs; he did "not think death too bad for the villain," but he said that the world would "call it a frolic," so he would be "prudently revengeful." "I will harm him all I possibly can," he says; and again, "Let us leave him to his misery alone except when we can throw in a little more." We cannot but regard this episode as discreditable to Wells.

Mr. Watts-Dunton at the close of his reminiscences describes the author of 'Joseph' as "a deeply religious man," and mentions, on the authority of Smith Williams, that Wells developed about the middle of last century (when he was some fifty years old) a faculty "rare among modern poets," creating "a great sensation in Brittany by raising from the dead, through prayer, a young lady of a distinguished family"—how long "dead" we are not informed, nor are we greatly inquisitive on the point. But is the real faculty implied in the tale so very rare? Is it not, on the contrary, the widespread, but none the less precious gift of credulity—not only the common credulity of the comfortable multitude, but also that specific form of credulity which affects the person imposing on the multitude with a belief or half-belief in his own imposture? Perhaps Mr. Watts-Dunton is a little sarcastic at the middle-aged poet's expense, however unflawed his admiration, nay reverence, for the veteran poet's astonishing work in the 1876 resurrection of his buried child of 1824. As for the girl in Brittany, of course we are not expected to believe that Wells raised a corpse by praying over it, any more than that he conjured the bogus Amena into a form of flesh and blood; but perhaps he may even have thought that his Brittany praying had in fact revivified a girl—not realizing that she was in a trance. What, again, has heredity to say to the peculiar form of imposture that believes or half-believes itself to be honest? Was Wells's "eminent engineer" son, after all, a man of that type? And is it to point a grim moral that Mr. Watts-Dunton closes with a short paragraph wherein he mentions that "Wells had a son, an eminent engineer"? Perhaps the time has not come for the elucidation of that point; but the fact remains that in a well-known collection of books and documents, one part of which is mentioned familiarly in a small circle as "the Wells archives," there are two letters, each signed by a Charles Wells of the generation following that of the poet. One is from the engineer's office in Paris which was the address of Wells's son for a time, the other from one of the London addresses of "the man who broke the bank at Monte Carlo"; and experts pronounce the signatures to be from the same hand.

Let us remember that practical joking such as that of the lad Wells at the cost of the lad Tom Keats is of the nature of imposture—imposture of an indefensible kind. Wells was a prince of jocularity when over eighty and bedridden

—a kind of cross between Falstaff and Prince Hal in that respect. A man of profound religious convictions and strenuous religious activity may be an inveterate practical joker: Sir Arthur Blackwood was, albeit in the main a noble character and incapable of deliberate cruelty. Were Wells's miracles after all a recrudescence of the practical-joke period in which he lost, and deserved to lose, John Keats's friendship? It is a speculation worth study, and one thing is certain—that nothing resulting from the study could affect his place in English literature. He sits among our poets beyond dispute or cavil; and we can afford to learn and tell the truth about him without fear of injury to his title to the subjective immortality of the illustrious.

*The Victoria History of Shropshire.* Edited by William Page. Vol. I. (Constable & Co.)

THERE is ample room for a thorough history of Shropshire, for although the late Mr. Eyton bestowed infinite labour upon the twelve volumes of the 'Antiquities of Shropshire,' which he completed in 1861, that scholarly work treats chiefly of the period of Domesday and of the Anglo-Norman kings. There is nothing else worthy of the name of a county history, but this first volume gives evidence that a trustworthy work will be accomplished.

It deals in the first place with various branches of natural history, beginning with geology, and passing on from palaeontology to botany and zoology. We do not propose at present to say anything more than that these different sections appear to have fallen into the hands of capable experts. To Prebendary Auden has been entrusted the subject of 'Early Man,' which is dealt with in a brief but comprehensive illustrated article. Shropshire has no traces of the Palaeolithic period, when England was joined to the Continent and the conditions of climate were very different from what subsequently prevailed. The theory that no remains of the first inhabitants of Britain are likely to be found north of a line drawn through Derbyshire seems to be still generally maintained. In that early era when the Palaeolithic hunter roamed the forests of Southern Britain in pursuit of mammoth or elk, Shropshire was probably either submerged or had too rigorous a climate for human habitation. The remains of Neolithic times are distributed pretty generally throughout the county, and this is also the case with bronze implements and with Late Celtic antiquities. Their respective prevalence and position are distinctly shown on a special prehistoric map.

The treatise on Romano-British Shropshire is from the authoritative pen of Prof. Haverfield. He deals consecutively with the station or town of Wroxeter, the various smaller sites of country houses or villas, the mines, and

the roads, and concludes with a topographical index of all the finds hitherto recorded. Shropshire antiquaries have much yet to do. The disused lead mines still await the explorer, whilst barely a hundredth part of the area of the great county town of Viroconium, now Wroxeter, has been uncovered. The area of Wroxeter is 170 acres, or two-thirds as large again as Silchester, to which such careful attention has been lately directed; but much is known with accuracy of the outline of its history. In the earlier years of the Roman conquest, probably about A.D. 44-5, a Roman fortress was established here, garrisoned by the Fourteenth Legion; a few tombstones of its soldiers are still extant. Prof. Haverfield feels confident that the troops did not stay here for any long period; the neighbouring fortress of Chester, occupied soon after A.D. 50 at latest, superseded that of Viroconium, and became the chief place of arms in this part of Britain. The subsequent history of Viroconium does not appear to have been in any way military, but rather that of a settled Romano-British country town on the same lines as that of Silchester. No doubt it had its Forum and Basilica and its public bath, of which certain traces were found during the discoveries of 1860. The excavations of that date disclosed abundant ashes, as of a conflagration, and many skeletons, some in the streets, and several even in the hypocausts of the bath buildings:—

"The meaning is plain. The town was stormed and burnt; its citizens were massacred in the open, or met a perhaps more lingering death in the hiding-places to which they fled. The disaster was decisive. When it was past, none cared to pick up the dead bodies, to clean out the hypocausts, to sweep away the ashes from the streets or rooms. From that day Wroxeter lay desolate. For generations no man dwelt within the circuit of its walls."

A clue to the date of this devastation is afforded by a small hoard of 132 copper coins found near one of the skeletons in the hypocaust, and by a still smaller hoard at the entrance of a shop near the baths. The period of these coins suggests that the city was destroyed by Anglo-Saxon invaders in the fifth century. The article is a good critical piece of work, and well illustrated with plans, drawings, and photographs.

In the introduction to the Domesday Survey we miss Dr. Round's masterly hand, but Prof. James Tait has dealt skilfully with its main contents. There is a most able article, covering some sixty pages, by Mr. J. Charles Wall, on the 'Ancient Earthworks' of the county, illustrated by a wealth of plans.

The industries are dealt with by Mr. John Randall; their discussion involves several points of interest. Broseley has for centuries been known throughout the Midlands for its tobacco-pipes; in fact, a clay pipe is frequently termed in Shropshire "a Broseley." Dated examples of these small pipes have been found as early as 1600. Some have

supposed from the shape of the pipes themselves, as well as the places where they have been found, that they were used before the introduction of tobacco in Elizabeth's reign, for native herbs or plants, medicinally or otherwise; but this is highly improbable. An interesting account is given of the rise and development of Caughley and Coalport porcelain. The ironworks and chain-making of the county receive special attention.

The last article in this volume is on 'Forestry,' by the Rev. Dr. Cox. A great deal of valuable and hitherto unrecorded information as to the early forestry of the county is here set forth from documents in the Public Record Office and other original sources. We observe one mistake. With reference to the frequency with which hayes, or enclosures for the capture of roedeer in the woodland or forest districts of Shropshire, are mentioned in Domesday, it is stated that they exceeded in number those of any other county. This is not the case: there were about sixty hayes in Shropshire, but over ninety in the neighbouring county of Chester.

*Letters of James Boswell to the Rev. W. J. Temple.* (Sidgwick & Jackson.)

BOSWELL's letters, revived for us by a new firm of publishers, enjoy the advantage of a mysterious history. They were written between 1758 and 1795, not without a view to publication, but were lost for more than fifty years. At Boulogne in 1850 Major Stone, of the East India Company, had the fortunate curiosity to examine a scrap of paper in which was wrapped some small purchase; it turned out to be a letter signed by James Boswell, and was traced to the store of an itinerant paper-vendor, where the letters published in 1856 were discovered. The anonymous editor of this issue is conjectured—with good reason, as we think—by Mr. Seccombe, who introduces the volume before us, to have been a Philip Francis of the Middle Temple who became later Sir Philip of the Supreme Consular Court of the Levant; but this matter also is obscure. The strangest mystery of all, however, is that these interesting, entertaining, in fact delightful letters, though appreciated by good judges of the day, till last December had never been reprinted.

The volume before us is a reprint from the first edition, the introduction by Mr. Seccombe being substituted for that of the original editor. We wish that Mr. Seccombe had been less modest—less conservative at any rate. With his view that "the editing was admirably done" we cannot agree entirely. Francis, who has intercalated blocks of exegesis and comment between the letters, writes good, straightforward prose, and appears to have been a sensible man; he admired Carlyle, and has enlivened his editorial labours with eruptions of legal facetiousness and sagacious reflections; but his lack of subtlety and the bluntness of his

perceptions make him incapable of appreciating the character of Boswell. Passages in the letters which seemed to him ridiculous he, in his solicitude for the reader's enjoyment, has been careful to print in italics; for it is difficult to suppose that Boswell underlined them. The original letters are again lost; should the passages in question be really underlined, it would follow that Boswell was not unintentionally or unconsciously ridiculous; that all his life he practised an elaborate mystification; that he succeeded in hoodwinking the world; that he enlightened Temple alone, who nevertheless appears to have treated him as though he were what the world took him for; and that Francis, who saw these underlined manuscripts, and yet persisted in the conventional view of Boswell, was not a Mid-Victorian prig, but an imbecile. It is true that he has been stupid enough to mangle and emasculate the letters that he was employed to publish; an officious prude unquestionably he was, but no fool, much less an idiot.

To discuss the character of Boswell has ever been a delicate, not to say dangerous, undertaking; but at least we may affirm that those who, judging him from the 'Life of Johnson,' are dissatisfied with the ordinary, unfavourable view, will find their estimate notably confirmed by these letters. They will find the popular "Boozy" ridiculous, vain, and a little vulgar, something of a snob, of a sycophant even, with an undignified zeal for notoriety and an imperfect moral sense; but also they will find Boswell, the friend of Hume and Johnson, who had a passion for excellence, a generous nature, a good understanding, and a genius for observation. They will see how Boswell expresses thoughts and feelings, often sufficiently commonplace, in words so astonishingly appropriate that we are almost blinded by the sheer truth of the self-revelation; and they may even conjecture that some of Boswell's performances, which have been lightly attributed to dull self-complacency or a defective sense of proportion, are more probably the effects of a whimsical and fantastic mind through which ran a gloomy strain of madness. Be that as it may, we now select for quotation a few characteristic passages, leaving the reader to decide for himself when and how far Boswell is laughing at "Boozy."

The correspondence with Temple, a fellow-student at Edinburgh, began in 1758, when Boswell was eighteen; for the first eight years, however, he was too busy making acquaintance with Johnson, travelling on the Continent, and conducting his famous Corsican adventure, to be a very prolific letter-writer. In 1766 he settled down in Edinburgh to the law, which he found intolerably dreary, and a love-affair, which he found too exciting. "The dear infidel" as he called her, besides being another man's wife, seems to have been an extravagant and disreputable young woman:

"In a former part of this letter I have talked a great deal of my sweet little mis-

tress ; I am, however, uneasy about her. Furnishing a house and maintaining her with a maid will cost me a great deal of money, and it is too like marriage, or too much a settled plan of licentiousness ; but what can I do ?

"Besides, she is ill-bred, quite a rompish girl. She debases my dignity ; she has no refinement, but she is very handsome and very lively."

What he did was to break with her ; four weeks later he writes :—

"My life is one of the most romantic that I believe either you or I really know of ; and yet I am a very sensible, good sort of man. What is the meaning of this, Temple ? You may depend upon it that very soon my follies will be at an end, and I shall turn out an admirable member of society. Now that I have given my mind the turn, I am totally emancipated from my charmer, as much as from the gardener's daughter who now puts on my fire and performs menial offices like any other wench ; and yet just this time twelvemonth I was so madly in love as to think of marrying her."

The frequency and solemnity of Boswell's resolutions to amend his ways are extraordinary, though the fact that his correspondent was a curate suggests an explanation ; in carrying them out he was perfectly normal.

Boswell tells us that he "looks with horror on adultery," and the love-affairs with which his letters overflow appear, for the most part, to have been innocent ; for an "Italian angel," Zelide (whom he knew at Utrecht), Miss Bosville, and "La Belle Irlandaise" he cherished at different times a chaste flame ; while Miss Blair, a neighbour and lady of fortune, very nearly caught him. But Boswell decided that he would not have a "Scots lass." "You cannot say how fine a woman I may marry ; perhaps a Howard or some other of the noblest in the kingdom." "Rouse me, my friend !" he cries ; "Kate has not fire enough ; she does not know the value of her lover !" Nevertheless, he was to have a "Scots lass" after all, for in the autumn of 1769 he married Miss Margaret Montgomerie, "a true Montgomerie, whom I esteem, whom I love, after fifteen years, as on the day when she gave me her hand" ('Letter to the People of Scotland').

After his marriage Boswell's life continued agitated and desultory : he practised at the Scotch Bar, without much success, and was called to the English ; almost every year he visited London, where he cultivated Johnson, enjoyed good company and fine, made the most of his social and literary importance, and revelled in the genuine and flattering friendship of Paoli, who seems to have made him free of his house : "I felt more dignity when I had several servants at my devotion, a large apartment, and the convenience and state of a coach."

It was absurd of him, no doubt, to say, "Am I not fortunate in having something about me that interests most people at first sight in my favour ?" but it seems to have been near the truth. "I am really the great man now. I have had David Hume in the forenoon, and

Mr. Johnson in the afternoon." These great men were interested somehow, and so, one must suppose, was Miss Silverton :

"There is a Miss Silverton in the Fly with me, an amiable creature, who has been in France. I can unite little fondnesses with perfect conjugal love."

There was, too, "an agreeable young widow" who, also in a fly, "nursed me, and supported my lame foot on her knee."

Boswell's life in Edinburgh was not altogether happy ; he hated the rough society of Scotch lawyers, and quarrelled with his father, the Laird of Auchinleck, who seems to have been an unsympathetic old man. The Laird died in 1782, and seven years later Boswell lost his "valuable wife." His story becomes melancholy : money troubles and family perplexities beset him (he was left with five children) ; his breaking health appears to have aggravated his terrible disorder. After his wife's death he came to London for good. Already he had taken a house in Queen Anne Street, and here he worked hard at 'The Life,' comforted a little by his assurance that it would be a masterpiece :

"I am absolutely certain that my mode of biography, which gives not only a *History* of Johnson's *visible* progress through the world, and of his publications, but a *view* of his mind in his letters and conversations, is the most perfect that can be conceived, and will be more of a *Life* than any work that has ever yet appeared."

With this proud but just prophecy we may leave him ; he died in 1795.

There are misprints on pp. 52, 141, 214, and a blunder carelessly reprinted from the 1856 edition on p. 165, which should be rectified in a second edition.

*Introduction to the Natural History of Language.* By T. G. Tucker. (Blackie & Son.)

THIS interesting treatise gives a fair general idea of the present position of the study which the author would prefer to call "glottology," had not the term "missed that acceptance which seems to denote ideal aptness." For an Introduction it is rather bulky, but more than two-thirds of the space is devoted to the Classification and Distribution of Languages—departments of the subject which can be skipped, and referred to only as required.

With regard to the nature and origin of speech and other general topics treated by W. D. Whitney, the author is in substantial agreement with that soundest of comparative philologists, though the title suggests Max Müller's classification of linguistic study as a physical science.

Prof. Tucker makes laudable efforts, which are only occasionally unsuccessful, to resist the influence of preconceptions which embarrass so many philologists, owing to "an instinctive aim of the human intellect to arrive as far as possible at unity, whether of origin or principle, in the phenomena which it encounters." He accepts as approximately correct Friedrich Müller's estimate of the number of apparently unconnected groups of

languages, namely, about a hundred. The development of languages and dialects is on the whole admirably delineated, the exposition being made easy by ingenious diagrams. After the prevalent dogmatism in respect to the causes of phonetic change the following sentence is refreshing :—

"It seems possible to detect the influence of unconscious psychological operations, which cause one displacement to be followed by others throughout a series. It seems hardly probable that the wholesale shifting of the long vowels in English, *bōt* to *boot*, *fēt* to *feet*, *mēs* to *mice*, *bōt* to *boot*, *mōs* to *mouse*, should have been brought about simply by physical causes, inasmuch as there is no avoidance of the several vowel-sounds as such, but only a progressive transposition of them."

We might add that in such shifting of sounds the instinctive appreciation of difference between heard sounds and the instinctive tendency to imitate the appreciated difference seem to have persisted, while the imitation of one or other sound of a series grew less and less accurate. Several obvious causes of phonetic change—such as a general increase or diminution in the average speed of connected speech in a community—are left unnoticed or too much in the background.

With respect to the unsubstantiated contraction of Latin "-orum" to "-um," erroneously assumed to explain the genitive plural "deum," we are told that "such a contraction is impossible" ; though the ascertained facts of phonetics give far too much trouble to leave time for the contemplation of possibilities. In linguistic matters universal propositions, whether positive or negative, whether expressed or implied, are seldom or never safe. The pair of doublets "peruke" and "periwig" is enough to invalidate the following statements : "It will be found that such doublets differ materially in sense" (from another page may be added "in all such cases"). "There would, indeed, otherwise be no room for both." Here we have an unsubstantiated psychological reason given for an untenable proposition. Doublets, do, of course, differ in sense in a large percentage of cases.

Some ingenious arguments are urged against the notions that "language began with inseparable irregular conglomerations (similar to those in the holophrastic tongues), and that the component elements subsequently disentangled themselves ; but their force is impaired by the inapt selection of the illustrative phrase in the following sentence :—

"It is impossible to comprehend a genesis of compounds or conglomerations forming such predication as 'dog barks,' if the components were not previously in existence and ready to combine for the purpose."

The phrase "man eats," instead of "dog barks," should have been repeated from the previous page. For if the bark of a dog sounds so that two human beings are likely to hear it, and if one of the two utters "bow-wow," the other must grasp some such meaning as "Does dog bark ?" or "dog barks," the action being expressed, the agent inseparably implied, and the grammar inferred. The easy dis-

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entanglement—"bow," the dog, "wow," barks—may have occurred somewhere at some time.

However, in view of the vastness and intricacy of the subject and the eccentricities of many of his authorities, Prof. Tucker has made surprisingly few false steps, and a little judicious pruning would raise his work to a high grade of excellence.

#### NEW NOVELS.

*Septimus.* By William J. Locke. (John Murray.)

In 'Septimus' Mr. Locke develops the fantastic strain in him of which he has recently given rather overwhelming evidence. He began his career as a novelist with a serious aim, and his art then and later was delicately sexual. We are not sure whether he did not reach his highest level in this genre with 'Where Love Is.' The creator of Marcus Ordeyne is quite another person. Started on the lines of genuine sentimental comedy, he soon acquired pace and ease and—extravagance. Through 'The Beloved Vagabond,' whimsical enough and unreal, he progressed to extravaganza such as he threw into dramatic form in 'The Palace of Pleasure,' and such as he has given us in this his latest book. 'Septimus' is to be considered as one of Mr. Locke's fantastic pirouettes; and as such it is amusing, and witty and entertaining enough. It is, we should judge, a determined exercise in the bizarre. Septimus is no human being at all, but a creature of faery; and Clem Sypher, the proprietor of a patent pill, is broadly farcical. It is probable that this story was written with one eye on the stage; Sypher and Septimus and their respective drolleries were meant to be shown off by the footlights. Looked at from that point of view, it is clear that Sypher and Septimus must pair off with heroines suitably and happily, as they do; and that the reader must not murmur at the sentimental turn that fun and extravaganza take. It is all Mr. Locke's huge joke, and it is good fun.

*The Two Goodwins.* By R. Murray Gilchrist. (John Milne.)

THIS is as charming a country idyll as we have seen for a long day. It belongs somehow to the sphere of 'Under the Greenwood Tree,' though it lacks Mr. Hardy's humour and sense of fate. The two Goodwins are William and Charlotte, children of a well-to-do retired tanner; and the book is concerned with their love-stories. We confess to finding Charlotte's colourless, for her young man is not definitely or interestingly limned for us. William's tale, on the other hand, is spirited and faithful. But the best of the work is compassed in the character-sketch of a grandmother, an admirable study on which the reader's interest centres very early. Mr. Gilchrist's pretty pastoral shows once more his intimate knowledge of Derbyshire and Derby folk.

*The New Andromeda.* By Carlton Dawe. (Eveleigh Nash.)

MR. DAWE'S comparison may pass, though it would have been more to the point if Cepheus had been the monster petrified by Perseus as well as the man who chained Andromeda to the rock. Mr. Dawe's monster is a mad English baronet who strips his wife and ties her to a tree about five miles from Guildford. Her rescuer is a poetic motorist, who, falling short of the achievement of Perseus, fails to prevent the commission of a horrible crime. A mild facetiousness is developed from Andromeda's need of clothes, and the author frolics prettily with platonic friendship until Andromeda relents, and romance is given its due. The dialogue, sometimes attractive in its disdain of conventionality and the freshness of its criticism of life, is occasionally deficient in colloquial flavour.

*Fatality.* By G. G. Chatterton. (John Long.)

THE one attractive thing about this story is the heroine. Esterelle Townsend, to whom Fate is uncommonly hard, is a pleasing figure, brave, tender, and cheerful among all the misfortunes that assail her. Alan Harcourt, the young officer who wins her heart; Sir Frederick Delacour, the wealthy, abnormally reserved, middle-aged baronet whom she is forced into marrying; Nurse Wilson, the deeply wronged, vindictive woman who poisons the baronet in circumstances which cause Esterelle to be suspected of the crime—these conventional figures are ill-fitting companions for so delicately fashioned a heroine. The incidents of the story are much too artificial to convey the idea of fatality. Mr. Chatterton writes with ease, and possesses a descriptive power that is most effectively used in some Cornish scenes; but he is scarcely of the order of novelists who can ignore the popular liking for a happy ending.

*The Adventures of Louis Blake.* By Louis Becke. (Werner Laurie.)

THE adventures of Louis Blake read very much as though they were the adventures of Louis Becke, and in good part they probably were. This does not at all detract from the interest and sense of reality. We follow the hero's career from his school days in the beautiful capital of New South Wales, through various ups and downs in California, to a trading expedition among the South Sea islands, which ends with his successful establishment as an island trader, with a schooner of his own and a large circle of native friends and retainers. Those who know Mr. Becke's other work will rightly surmise that such a narrative affords him excellent scope for the utilization of his wide and varied experience of the islands of the South Pacific. There is beachlore enough in this story to supply half a dozen globe-trotters' books of travel.

*The Faith of his Fathers.* By A. E. Jacomb. (Melrose.)

MISS JACOMB-HOOD's story is an interesting, if rather laborious study of the disastrous effects which an uncompromising Puritanism in a person of authority may have upon his immediate surroundings. Mr. Atkinson, a leading brother in the Wesleyan society of a Midland town, is also the father of a family, and though a kindly, affectionate man, he, like Abraham, unflinchingly offers up his only son Stephen upon the altar of his faith. No angel intervening (for Mary Wilson, equally narrow and unbending in her religion, stands aside at this crisis from the man she loves), Stephen's life is destined to be ruined in company with the barmaid whom he has been forced to marry, and whom he ultimately kills in a fit of temper. His sister Rachel, more fortunate, defies her father, and marries an intelligent man who is regarded as an atheist. A really pathetic figure, as she is also the most attractive in the book, is Mrs. Atkinson, the sweet, placid wife and mother, the slow undermining of whose confidence in her husband's judgment results in the loss of her reason. The story is carefully written, and gives a realistic, but not too highly coloured picture of a certain class of provincial society.

*The Thunder of the Hoofs.* By William H. Lang. (John Long.)

THE man who sported on an Australian station the circus dress worn (according to the picture on its front cover) by the hero of this ingenuous story would be mercilessly chaffed and see the error of his ways. But, absurdly unreal though the picture is, the story is well enough, for those who like this kind of thing, and written clearly by one whose love of cricket, horse flesh, and the sporting life generally is as genuine as his literary style is unpretentious. It is not Whyte-Melville, but it is simple, cheerful narrative on Whyte-Melville lines, the background chosen being for the one half Scotch, and for the other Australian.

#### HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHY.

*State and Family in Early Rome.* By Charles W. L. Launspach. (Bell & Sons.)—This book, dealing to a considerable extent with prehistoric matters (including in that term whatever antecedes credible annals), is, as the author confesses, "a bold effort of synthesis," not so much, as he says in the next clause, "calculated to stimulate the imagination" as to exhibit the value of it in any historian worthy the name. We think the volume, professedly sober and legal, a good specimen of this kind of historic imagination, and if we find reason to criticize it, we find such reason rather in its assumptions than in its method of reasoning from them.

Concerning the largest problem of all, and one which cannot but influence his whole account of primitive Roman society, the author seems to have antiquated notions. Ihering's studies on early Aryan history, quoted as his

main authority, were published in 1894, and since that time ideas of what the Aryans found when they came into Southern Europe have been completely changed. We no longer think that the Aryans brought a hitherto unknown civilization into nomadic or semi-nomadic Europe, but believe that they, a late arrival in the history of Europe, found old and well-developed culture in many parts of their new conquest. Relics not only of the civilization, but also of the barbarism of these earlier occupants were not infrequent in early historic times. Thus when Cæsar, to the author's surprise, speaks of polyandry still existing in Britain, we may conceive this custom not among its Aryan possessors, but rather among the older population, which they conquered, but did not extirpate. Without further investigation, and further exploration, we cannot tell how far such previous inhabitants in Italy may not have coloured even Roman institutions. One of these non-Aryan populations, which seems to have immigrated by way of the sea, at a not very distant time, survived and influenced the Romans greatly. This was the Etruscan, which our author is out of date in holding to have been an Aryan race. Corssen's wonderful attempt to prove this by their language proved a disastrous failure. The origin of this strange people was discussed with great acuteness and learning at the Roman Historical Congress of 1903, with the result of confirming Herodotus's account of their Asianic origin.

Our author speaks with confidence not only of the general character, but also of the special provisions of the XII. Tables, and yet he tells us that we only know them through quotations from far later writers, on whose accuracy (we will add) we cannot depend. How much this code (he will hardly call it a code) owes to the influence of the Greeks he nowhere discusses, but who can tell that on such a question as that of Testaments the Romans may not have borrowed from Greek practice?

Mr. Launspach knows perfectly well that Livy's account of the King of Rome is hardly historical, yet he quotes that account for details regarding the election of the various kings, and the consequent prehistoric powers of the *comitia curiata*. He repeats the vulgar saying that representative government was unknown to the ancients. That is not true either in theory or practice. The Amphictyon at Delphi was managed by a strictly representative body, but it often passed from its proper religious sphere into politics. The Achaean League was nominally governed by a direct assembly, but in practice by the richer or idler members of each city, who attended its occasional parliaments.

These and some other criticisms have suggested themselves to us, not because we seek to diminish thereby our general estimate of the book, but because it is in the main an excellent piece of work, clear and temperate, written with close attention to the object in hand, and excluding "the merely dramatic or picturesque." It is a lawyer's treatment of one department of Roman law—the relation of the family to the State; and we know not where an intelligent student could find a better exposition in brief of a long and thorny subject. The author's style is cold and clear, but not beyond cavil. We do not like "to voice," still less "to antagonize," or "thived" instead of *throve*, though such things are defensible. We also object to the epithet "exuberant" for the imagination of the Greeks, which was great just because it was kept from being exuberant. But these are only trifles. We congratulate the author on his sound and sensible book.

*Select Cases concerning the Law Merchant, A.D. 1270-1638.*—Vol. I. *Local Courts.* Edited by Charles Gross. (Quaritch.)—The solid merits of Prof. Gross's edition of 'Select Cases from the Coroners' Rolls,' published in 1895 for the Selden Society, are so well known that the Society must be congratulated on having induced the learned Harvard professor to undertake two more volumes for it. It is the more happy a circumstance since Dr. Gross has entered on a work which brings him back to the history of mediæval municipal institutions, the subject in which he first made his reputation. Of the two volumes of 'Select Cases concerning the Law Merchant,' the first is now before us, while a second, dealing with the Law Merchant in the superior courts, is reserved for a future date. In this first instalment Prof. Gross limits himself to commercial cases tried in local courts, and particularly in those rapid, unceremonious, but effective aids to business, the special market and fair courts, quaintly called "Courts of Pie Powder." Such summary tribunals seem to have been common throughout Western Christendom, and with us they took their name from the dusty wandering trader, the "pede pulverisatus" for whose benefit they were expressly set up. But though itinerant traders were called "pede pulverisati" on the Continent, it was only in England that the courts which entitled them to recover their debts before they sped on to the next fair were called after them. And it is only in England that any records of these humble market courts have been preserved. The contents of these records have, however, been very little studied, though F. W. Maitland led the way, as usual, by publishing some early rolls of the St. Ives Market Court. The very interesting St. Ives series are now extensively drawn upon by Dr. Gross, and constitute the early part of his present volume. He has, moreover, gathered material from all parts of the country and all types of market courts—from Carnarvon to Norwich, from Northwiche and Halton to Exeter and Wye. Nearly all his matter is from the Public Record Office. A short Introduction adequately calls our attention to the chief features of the fair courts, defines their relations to the ordinary borough courts, and describes Prof. Gross's methods of editing. He has given us careful glossaries and indexes, and has not grudged the weary labour of translation which the Selden Society imposes upon its editors. Sometimes, perhaps, Prof. Gross has neglected opportunities in identifying his personal and proper names, and on rare occasions has not given us the normal form. "Lisle" and "Popering" are curious variants from the ordinary spellings of two well-known Flemish towns; "Mabelyn" (p. 108) is "Elyn's son," not a surname; and why should "Colebou" be "Colomby," a form unknown to Norman topography? As a mere guess we should prefer "Quillebeuf." But these identifications are troublesome and uncertain, and their unravelling would have taken Prof. Gross far afield from the "Law Merchant."

*Auto de Fé and Jew.* By Elkan N. Adler. (Frowde.)—The greater part of Dr. Adler's work has already appeared in *The Jewish Quarterly Review*; but, as he supplements Dr. Lea's invaluable 'History of the Inquisition of Spain,' it is convenient to have his articles expanded in book form. Dr. Adler owes nothing to the literary graces, and even ventures to say (p. 69) of Leo X. that "his Holiness sat on the fence" till

Charles V. disclosed his policy. However, he is a sound judge of evidence, has ample knowledge of his subject, and certainly proves that the number of *autos* has been greatly under-estimated. Two or three slips need correction. Juan Alfonso de Baena may possibly have been of Jewish descent, as Dr. Adler believes (p. 15); yet the chief reason for thinking so is that the word "iudino" is applied to him in his "Cancionero," as printed by Pidal, and a glance at the manuscript shows that "iudino" is a misreading of *indino*. "Relacions" (p. 17) "Don Deza" (p. 63), and "Rivista" (p. 163) are incorrect; and St. Theresa was not a seventeenth-century mystic (p. 94). Apart from these occasional lapses, Dr. Adler is eminently trustworthy.

*Two English Queens and Philip.* By Martin Hume. (Methuen & Co.)—This volume forms one of a series of historical biographies or biographical histories edited by Major Hume under the general title of "Romantic History." The publishers claim for the series a special appeal to the modern reader as exhibiting a method which "is as different from biography as it is from the old-fashioned impersonal history," as

"a humanisation of the past, an attempt to bring back, not a knowledge of events alone, but also the atmosphere in which they happened."

This method risks loss of perspective, from the necessity of grouping; but in able hands it certainly proves effective.

In spite of its "popular" appeal this volume is essentially a work of specialization, and the author's handling of authorities is evident on every page. The book naturally resolves itself into a character-study of Philip:—

"a slow, laborious, unimaginative, morbidly conscientious man, a good son, a good husband, and, according to his lights, a good father; kind and indulgent to his servants, patient under adversity and humble in success: indeed, a man endowed with most of the elements of righteousness; and yet with a sense of right so blinded by his zeal as to think that he might do God's work with the weapons of the devil, and turn enemies into friends by fear."

Major Hume is concerned in developing this view of Philip's character in his relations, we may say, with three queens—Mary Tudor, the devoted and despairing wife whom he married in the very spirit of martyrdom; Elizabeth, with whom he fought for over thirty years a duel of diplomacy, and, at last, of war; and Mary Stuart, who was, after all, but a pawn in his game.

The "setting" involves a study of the relations between the European Powers during a period when the rivalry between France and Spain formed still the central drama in European politics, and England played more conspicuously and emphatically the "balancing" part which the early Tudors had chosen for her. The chief merit of this volume is the eminently clear and interesting unravelling of the subtle and complex diplomacy which protracted the drama of the times. Every motive and factor receives due appraisal, yet the narrative is never wearisome. The author's keen appreciation of character leads to a more sympathetic and impartial exposition than is usual of characters like Mary Tudor or Philip himself.

The theme itself is severe rather than "romantic," and the immense space to be covered necessarily precludes much picturesque detail, and this in spite of the glimpse of the pageantry of the times in the description of Philip's magnificence in dress and equipment on his first coming to England as Mary's bridegroom. Again, the darker sides of the life of the time—the persecutions under Mary and Elizabeth

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alike, the bitter feeling underlying the plots against the life and throne of Elizabeth—necessarily fall into subordination to the story of diplomacy.

From this continuous and concentrated narrative the reader can see, as he hardly would from general histories, how very real the Spanish danger was from the time when Mary Tudor was ready to lay England at the feet of Philip, throughout the reign of Elizabeth. The great scheme by which Mary, Queen of Scots, after her marriage with Darnley, was with the help of Spain to win the crown of England failed mainly through Philip's cautiousness, which also, together with his distrust of allies, prevented his giving whole-hearted support to the series of plots in Mary's favour during the whole period of her imprisonment in England. The story of these forms good reading.

It is a pity that the author allows certain affectations to mar an otherwise pleasant style of writing. The illustrations are eminently interesting and well chosen.

*History of South Africa since September, 1795.* By George McCall Theal. Vol. I. (Swan Sonnenschein.)—Dr. Theal's 'History' has by this time attained to the position of a standard work, so that a detailed notice of this new edition is uncalled for. As now recast, the earlier part of the old edition has been expanded into three volumes, forming a complete whole in themselves, under the title of 'History and Ethnography of South Africa'; while the 'History of South Africa since 1795,' of which the first instalment is before us, will be an independent whole in five volumes. On comparing the new vol. i. with the edition of 1891, we find that the chapters have been to a certain extent rearranged, and that many additional details have been inserted; while some have been corrected, e.g., in the account of the Slachter's Nek episode, pp. 229-41, where also some expressions of opinion have been toned down. The volume closes with the arrival of Sir Lowry Cole as Governor (September 7th, 1828), the sixteen chapters embraced in it thus being equal to seven and a half in the old edition. The chapters on the Bantu tribes (xv., xvi.) have been entirely remodelled. We should be glad to know Dr. Theal's reason for writing "Unandi" for Umnandi, and "Swangendabé" for Zwangendaba; in the latter case Zulu etymology ("Know by hearsay") shows the form with Z to be correct.

*Concerning Lafcadio Hearn.* By George M. Gould. (Fisher Unwin.)—This is the latest of several books about Lafcadio Hearn, whose death occurred only in September, 1904; and like its predecessors, it comes from America. Dr. Gould's position is somewhat odd. He knew Hearn from 1889 onwards, and was obviously on terms of intimacy with him; yet he seems to have disapproved of his friend thoroughly in many ways, and he can, and does, take the coldest views of him in these biographical notes. For Dr. Gould expressly repudiates the idea of writing a life of Hearn. In his Preface he says bluntly: "Of Lafcadio Hearn there has been, and there will be, no excuse for any biography whatever." Dr. Gould thinks that "a properly edited volume of his letters, and, perhaps, a critical estimate of the methods and development of his imaginative power are...most desirable." This collection of notes is designed as a contribution to that end. It is a strange contribution. Dr. Gould is astonishingly dispassionate, and would appear to be removed from Hearn's outlook by infinite differences. Hearn was nothing if not passionate and wayward; his critic reminds

us rather of a scientific man who has caught a specimen, which may or may not be of value, but which requires investigation. Not that Dr. Gould does not admire Hearn; as a writer of letters he admires him profoundly, and he is manifestly interested in his literary progress. Yet he writes with detachment:—

"He has been spoken of as 'a great man,' which, of course, he was not. Two talents he had, but these were far from constituting personal greatness. Deprived by nature, by the necessities of his life, or by conscious intention, of religion, morality, scholarship, magnanimity, loyalty, character, benevolence, and other constituents of personal greatness, it is more than folly to endeavour to place him thus wrongly before the world."

This seems to abolish Hearn in a sentence. Further we read that he was absorbed by "blood, sensualism, and fiendishness" in his literary work, and that he revelled in the horrible. Dr. Gould, it seems, endeavoured to demonstrate to Hearn the existence of Deity, and Hearn declared that he "gave him a soul." Moreover, it was Dr. Gould who persuaded him to go to Japan, for which feat he modestly claims credit:—

"It is plain that the Japanese period and work crowns his life-labours splendidly, and that his masterful pictures of Japanese characters, traditions, and religion now constitute one of our most precious literary treasures. They have also been of profound service to Japan."

It is contended by some Japanese authorities that Hearn's work is by no means illuminative of Japan. Dr. Gould states that, despite the fact that he lived over a dozen years in the country and married a Japanese wife, he was unable to read a Japanese newspaper or speak a word of the language. Dr. Gould's admiration of the writer is distinctly limited by his statement that Hearn was incapable of doing more than transmit impressions. Apparently this destroys his creativeness. Hearn deserted his friends, and turned on those who had been kind to him. If this account of him be correct—it is attacked in the current *Nineteenth Century*—his conduct was in some respects particularly noisome. To a mixed ancestry may be due incongruities of many sorts in his character. All the American books about him appear to make a mystery of his parentage, and Dr. Gould thinks it unlikely that anything definite and of value will be discovered on the subject. As members of the family are still living there is no reason why this should be, if there is any real necessity to learn more. The fact is that the apotheosis of Hearn is being overdone. He owes much of his posthumous fame, as we have said before, to the fact that he ended life as a naturalized Japanese, and expounded the East to the West at a time when the latter was getting interested in the former. Hearn had a quick and lively fancy and a nervous imagination. He took up impressions easily and swiftly, and he wrote with a vivid pen. Thus he will take his place among literary figures of our times. Dr. Gould's book contains an elaborate bibliography, which has been compiled by Miss Stedman.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

MR. JOHN MURRAY publishes the *Life of Lord Norton*, by Mr. William S. Childe-Pemberton, who has done better with a topic of less romantic interest than he did in his memoirs of Baroness de Bode. Mr. Childe-Pemberton could hardly be expected to rouse up a rude speech by Bright at Birmingham, in which he put more crudely that unfavourable judgment of Sir Charles Adderley, afterwards Lord Norton, which

is recorded here in a letter. The posts held in the course of a long life by the subject of the memoir made it inevitable that we should have a regular biography, in which, indeed, are some interesting passages.

Although Adderley's Colonial policy has been prominent in earlier books, it still attracts the attention of the reader. No one can wonder at the preference given, among Adderley's varied opinions on Colonial government, to those which were sound and are now accepted. It is, however, to be noted that the views put forth by Adderley in his writings of 1861 were received with delight by the school who reject with horror some of Lord Norton's ultimate declarations upon the subject. Moreover, there was a time when Disraeli, acting with Cobden against Palmerston, expressed on behalf of the Tory party historic adherence to doctrines for which his later admirers have apologized or sought excuse. The view that the Colonies were "a millstone round our neck" was entertained by many who afterwards took a different view and fell in with that popular belief of earlier days which they had condemned as ignorant. Writing in support of Adderley's pamphlet on the 'Relations of England with the Colonies,' dedicated to the Conservative leader in 1861, Disraeli expressed complete agreement, but declared "the theme beyond the domain of reasoning," on account of the excitement of "the passions of the people." The Cecil who was afterwards, as Lord Salisbury, Disraeli's successor, differed, and, writing before he had read the pamphlet, made use of the prudent phrase, "From what I know of your uncompromising doctrines I cannot hope that I shall agree." Both Salisbury's letter and that of Lowe, who was on the Adderley-Disraeli side, assumed that we were at war with the United States. Salisbury on the 20th of December wrote: "The present war, if it comes to that, will draw a good deal of attention to the question of Colonial Empire, whether it be worth having or at what price." Lowe's words, penned as late as the last day of the year, were: "A state of war is not a good time for raising these questions." In reviewing other memoirs we have lately had occasion to note the curious calm, if not indifference, with which British statesmen contemplated at the end of 1861 a war with the United States, for which our preparation was only that which Panmure and Queen Victoria have described. Disraeli's letters on Colonial subjects in 1864 are curiously like those of Bright at the same date. The Conservative leader declares that "the country has" been "long accustomed to the idea of what they call Colonial Empire, and the power and profit which they erroneously associate with their obsolete conceptions." Bright thought that there was "a more reasonable temper" than formerly prevailed, "and the evil principles so long taught by Lord Palmerston seem to be losing their influence." He was willing to serve on a Colonial Committee for which he recommended Baxter, afterwards Secretary of the Treasury, and, in the language of the present day, a representative "Little Englander." Adderley is entitled to credit for having followed "his friend Godley, the originator of his Colonial policy," in the sound views as to Colonial self-government with which he began and ended his association with Colonial affairs.

"OLD-FASHIONED" is the only description that suits Mr. W. B. Woodgate and the greater portion of his *Reminiscences of an Old Sportsman* (Eveleigh Nash). He and his book are, indeed, old-fashioned, both in the good and in the bad sense of the term. We shall not dwell upon cat-killing, or a

taste for cock-fighting and dog-fighting, and a desire to witness public hangings; but prefer to consider the pleasanter side. Towards his rivals, as towards his friends, Mr. Woodgate is a kind "old oar"; and hardly any one is attacked by him except the Bishop of Hereford, when, as Dr. Percival, he was the head of a college or a school, and Mr. Winston Churchill, who is, we suppose, fair game. Mr. Woodgate's politics are as easygoing generally as his old-fashioned Toryism allows; and the virulence of his language about Mr. Winston Churchill, showing as it does power in the oarsman to conquer the "bargee," is mainly based upon the fact that Mr. Churchill had changed sides. It is unnecessary to ask Mr. Woodgate how we were to carry out the policy towards Germany which he blames Mr. Balfour's Cabinet for not pursuing: "We should have firmly intimated to her that we intended to sink what she had already got if she proceeded to extend her navy." Even Nelson could not sink the Toulon fleet while it stayed at home. Mr. Woodgate is so persuasive in his frankness and transparent honesty that, far from resenting such epithets as "parasite" or "vermin," Mr. Winston Churchill will probably feel sorry for the author that his first attempt to witness a hanging was spoilt by a friend's long sleep, similar to that described in the case of the Lord Tomnoddy of 'The Ingoldsby Legends.' So, too, with the scholarship of Mr. Woodgate. He displays such interest in literary and classical points that we shall not ask disagreeable questions as to the exact nature of his hypothetical resemblance to "Cassandra" as "a prophet of ill omen."

There are pleasant anecdotes of many of his contemporaries. A courageous speech addressed to college authorities by another great oarsman, "W. Wightman Wood, now County Court Judge," is magnificent, and we learn with pleasure that

"Wood carried the day; and Plumtree adjusted his spectacles and gave judgment off-hand without condescending to consult his juniors, the other dons. He had been much impressed, he said, by the force of Mr. Wood's arguments, and the college would not be sent down."

Another anecdote—let us hope apocryphal, but full of detail—describes the great "John Morley of Lincoln... who was anything but a betting man," laying "100 to 1" on a cricket score, and losing the rash bet. Such is the frankness of Mr. Woodgate that he explains how, when a Radley schoolboy, he used to poach pheasants and consign the game by a carrier to himself as though a present from fond parents. He also tells us how at a much later period he earned guineas by writing sermons for clergymen, who were under the belief that he, too, was in holy orders.

Mr. Woodgate is a man who, like all popular oarsmen, has had many nicknames in his day. One of them was episcopal, and another we believe theological. The only one which he explains is based upon a very different accomplishment, and goes back to the time when, as a freshman of light weight, Mr. Woodgate played "the part of Lady Barbara in 'The Little Savage.'" It seems difficult to believe, after scanning the many portraits of the author in this volume, that he was indeed "very effeminate in appearance." Mr. Woodgate has some sound observations on the recklessness with which University "colours" or "Blues" have been conferred of late times; and others, as wise and learned as would be expected of the author of a good volume in the Badminton series, upon the reason why professionals, while always inferior as oarsmen to amateurs, are invariably superior

as scullers in racing boats. The fact is generally known, but we do not remember that any earlier writer has shown the cause. So, too, was it left for a recent essayist to explain the simple mental process by which the best of civilized dogs is forced to bite the postman.

*Stalks Abroad: being some Account of the Sport obtained during a Two Years' Tour of the World*, by Harold Frank Wallace (Longmans & Co.), is a pleasant description of the sporting side of a holiday. Part of the book has appeared in *Country Life*, and it is amply illustrated by reproductions from photographs and drawings by the author, which in treatment resemble similar work by Mr. J. G. Millais, and are of much merit.

America is first described, the author being attracted thereto by a description of the Yellowstone Park surreptitiously perused during French lessons at Eton. The Park and its inhabitants, Wyoming, British Columbia, and the Rocky Mountains were visited, and varieties of game were hunted. Of the Rocky Mountain goat, which we know as *Haplocreos montanus*, here called Oreamnos, Mr. Wallace says that

"he is an anachronism; an unfortunate animal antedated for the age in which he lives, bearing to the mammals of his country the same relationship as does the pelican to the birds. They both in their respective spheres look as prehistoric as a non-bridge at a fashionable dinner-party."

Next, New Zealand red deer come in for notice, and it is said that in places their outlook for the future is far from promising. Overstocking and bad management have led to deterioration, and the number of poor heads and malformations is excessive. These remarks may be commended to the persons in control of the forests.

Then there is a chapter on Japan, "a vary hypnotic place," describing a deer drive in order to dishorn the stags; and another on small-game in India, as the casual sportsman without friends at court has but slender opportunities for big game.

Perhaps the trip to British East Africa made amends, for plenty of shots were obtained, the chief victims being the generally ungainly and ungamelike antelopes. Lions, though often heard, were not to be got; and the only elephant shot, and lost at the time, was, when recovered, found to have undersized tusks, which were confiscated by Government.

*The Revolt of the Potemkin*. By Constantine Feldmann. Translated by Constance Garnett. (Heinemann.) Few people can have forgotten the announcement which appeared in the newspapers some four years ago, when Russia was in the midst of her disastrous struggles at home and abroad, that the Prince Potemkin Tavritchesky, the most powerful ironclad of the Black Sea Fleet, had suddenly mutinied. It was a dramatic incident, though its results were not proportionate to the expectations raised in some minds by its commencement; a few days sufficed to show that the revolt thus inaugurated was not destined to spread, and among the mass of English readers, at least, it soon ceased to excite any special interest. In the present volume Constantine Feldmann, a Social Democrat, who happened to be at Odessa when the Potemkin arrived there just after its revolt, and who went on board and played a prominent part in the subsequent proceedings, describes what actually took place in that strange effort of insurrection. He gives a brief account of the mutiny of the crew and the slaughter of the officers, and then traces the development of the situation day by day until the final surrender of the vessel a week later. Success could hardly have attended such a rising, sanguine though its leaders were at the

beginning; it was expected that the rest of the squadron would join in the revolt, but this did not take place; the plans formed by the crew were variable and conflicting; there was a general lack of organization; no one of sufficiently commanding genius appeared to direct the movement; and there was inevitably present a large element of distrust and treachery. Feldmann himself ascribes the failure mainly to "the insufficient development of the revolution on shore," but the detached—and possibly ignorant—reader will probably regard that as only one of many causes. However that may be, the clear and vivid account here given of the whole incident is of engrossing interest. Feldmann manages to enlist our sympathies for the revolutionists, and the story of their high hopes and forlorn endeavours inspires both pity and admiration.

The second portion of the volume presents a narrative of the author's imprisonment and eventual escape, and is in its own way no less interesting than the first. Altogether the book thoroughly deserved to be made accessible to English readers, and is well translated.

*The Practical Wisdom of the Bible*. Edited by J. St. Loe Strachey. (Pitman.) We do not much care for books of this kind, but we suppose that some people find them attractive. Mr. Strachey's competence for the task is undoubted, except that he leans always to the side of respectability. More use might have been made of the denunciation of the rich by St. James and our Lord. We do not say that this side is wholly ignored, but Mr. Strachey tends rather to emphasize what he calls a wise conservatism.

*The Library* (Moring) for the current quarter opens with an account of the bibliography of Milton by Mr. A. W. Pollard, who calls attention to the significance of the variations in the verses to Shakespeare as printed in the Second Folio and in Milton's works in 1645. He refers to the fact that the title of 'Comus' has not the author's authority, and quotes Lamb's remarks on the manuscript of 'Lycidas.' A full account of the various states of the first edition of 'Paradise Lost' is given, with notes of the later editions. The article is the most complete bibliography of Milton's first editions yet compiled. The will of George Thomason, whose collection of pamphlets is our best authority for Commonwealth history, is reprinted in full. Mr. H. I. Bell contributes an account of the poems of Dafydd ab Gwilym, so highly praised by Borrow, with prose translations of several of them. Miss Lee, in her article on 'Recent Foreign Literature,' writes at some length on the Penguins. It would be a good test for the man who thinks he knows something of nineteenth-century literature to take the list of writers given by Kummer as quoted by Miss Lee, and write down the names of their chief works. An article on 'Simplified Spelling from the Printer's Standpoint' estimates that the silent letters in English words cost about 20,000,000. annually—half of this in printing. Mr. Beck publishes the details of a new Ipswich book printed in 1548 by John Oswen. Mr. Plomer traces some dealings of the Long Parliament with the press, in which he gives an account of a number of suppressed pamphlets, &c., from 1642 to 1645. We learn from the paper that the usual number of an edition of a pamphlet was 1,000. Mr. Scholderer contributes a note on 'Ludwig Hohenwang's Second Press,' and Mr. R. L. Steele one on 'Printers and Books in Chancery,' in which a case is mentioned in which Dr. John Dee was concerned, and another, part of the litigation concerning the Latin stock of the Stationers' Company.

## H. R. FOX BOURNE.

MR. FOX BOURNE had not been a strong man for some time, but his death on Wednesday week last at Torquay came as a shock to his friends and associates. Of recent years he had worked with untiring zeal and enthusiasm as secretary of the Aborigines' Protection Society. A host of books and pamphlets—including 'The Other Side of the Emin Pasha Expedition' (1891), 'Matabeleland and Chartered Company' (1897), 'The Bechuanas Troubles: Story of Pledge-Breaking, Rebel-Making, and Slave-Making in a British Colony' (1898), 'Blacks and Whites in South Africa,' second edition (1900), and 'Civilisation in Congoland: a Story of International Wrongdoing' (1903)—indicate the strong appeal he made for the native races of Africa. Holding decided views, and expressing those views strongly, Mr. Fox Bourne did not give way to sensationalism, and his writings won him the respect and regard of those who differed from him.

He was well known as an author and journalist before he took up his African work. Attracted by the enterprise of commerce, he published 'Famous London Merchants' (1872), 'The Romance of Trade' (1876), 'English Merchants' Memoirs: Progress of Commerce' (1886), and 'The Story of our Colonies,' new edition (1888). He also produced an excellent life of 'Sir Philip Sidney' in the 'Heroes of the Nations' Series (1891), and two volumes on 'English Newspapers' (1887), which were a great advance on the work of James Grant on 'The Newspaper Press.' To this book he contributed a good deal of his own knowledge. He was editor both of *The Examiner* and *The Weekly Dispatch*, and his dismissal from the latter and claim for a year's salary were the subject of a legal decision of considerable importance to journalists, six months' notice being settled as usual.

Mr. Fox Bourne was a writer of marked fluency and ability, with a wide knowledge of English history and letters, pleasant to work with, and always trustworthy. Untainted by the prevailing commercialism of to-day, devoted to his work, and ever ready to help others, he will be much missed by his friends and all who know the importance of the work he did so well. His modesty prevented him from taking the place in the public eye occupied by several persons of inferior talents who do not object to self-advertisement.

## THE BRITISH MUSEUM READING-ROOM.

Wimbledon Park, Feb. 2, 1909.

As one of the most ancient among those persons who enjoy the privileges of admission to the Reading-Room of the British Museum, I beg the favour of your giving insertion in an early number of *The Athenæum* to this my protest against the tone adopted by "An Editor and Author" in his letter appearing in your issue of the 30th ult., regarding the treatment of students of the Library. Your correspondent airs his grievances under two heads.

First.—That being a reader of long standing and well known to the officials of the Reading-Room, it was an unnecessary and offensive action on the part of a responsible janitor to require "An Editor and Author" to produce his ticket of admission on a certain occasion. The reply to this complaint is that admission to the Library is only granted on the express conditions, printed on the face of the ticket, that the same "must be carefully preserved by the

reader; it must be produced when asked for at the Museum, and must be returned on expiry, or when no longer required." However eminent the "Editor and Author" may be, it is clear he has no ground for pretending to be exempted from the operation of these most necessary, but simple requirements; and if he is so careless or forgetful on this point, he has only himself to blame, and has no more claim to our sympathy than one of those querulous and annoying persons who as railway or tramway passengers so frequently create scenes by refusing to show their travelling vouchers. Having due regard to the known danger of persons who are not duly authorized finding their way among the priceless treasures of the Library, it is obvious that any one custodian who allowed a person not in possession of the requisite permit to pass into the Library, would be unworthy of the post of janitor.

Second.—As to this, the most offensive of the charges made by "Editor and Author," I beg to state that although I have not the honour of being personally acquainted with the eminent Director-General of the Museum, or with any of his highly trained subordinates of the Library, I confidently and without reserve attest that the same ready courtesy and assistance to readers on the part of all ranks engaged in the control and service of the Library, which was extended to me as a reader from my first admission about the year 1858, is still manifested to readers by all of the overworked officials of whom "Editor and Author" writes so strangely.

H. W. B.

THE letter of "An Editor and Author" in *The Athenæum* of January 30th calls attention to the existence of a real grievance, and one which the Trustees should take steps to remove. The case of "An Editor and Author" is by no means an isolated case. I have been a reader in the National Library for over forty years. During this period I have continuously used the Library, and have but once (some years ago) been asked if I had a ticket, when I replied in the affirmative. For the last two years I have been engaged almost exclusively in the MS. Department, but in December last, after leaving this department, wished to consult a work in the Printed Book Department, and proceeded to the door of entrance to the General Library. Here I was stopped by a demand to produce my ticket. Though I come to London every few weeks, I do not carry about a ticket issued forty years ago, and never previously demanded. I have never renewed my forty years' old ticket, conceiving that the regulations as to renewals were not applicable to the early tickets issued not subject to any such restriction or limitation. In short, I was refused admittance, and am never likely to visit the Library again. I am personally known to several of the Trustees, to the Principal Librarian, and to many of the senior officials; but as I am not known to the "man with buttons," my word as to being a reader is disregarded.

It is clear the official mind does not realize the true position, or grasp the fact that literary men (and I venture humbly to claim to come under this description as an author of some forty or fifty different works), and men of established position, will not submit to be treated in the childish way which officialism favours. I care not for myself, for it is rarely indeed that I need trouble the authorities in respect of any printed book; but there are many not so happily placed, and I fail to see why well-known men using the Library for the

benefit of the nation and the public, which after all supplies the funds by which the work of the great institution is efficiently carried on, should not by the authorities of the British Museum be treated with that courtesy and consideration they almost invariably meet with elsewhere.

ANOTHER EDITOR AND AUTHOR.

I WAS somewhat surprised in reading, in your issue of January 30th, your correspondent's protest against the rules regarding the Reading-Room of the British Museum. "An Editor and Author" objects to being asked by the attendant to produce his ticket of admission, inasmuch as, having been a reader for thirty years, he ought to be well known. I have not any doubt of the wisdom of the rules made by the authorities, and of the necessity of these rules being from time to time amended, and enforced. I have been a reader for fifty-one years, and yet I was questioned, and asked to show my ticket, which unfortunately had, during absence in the country, gone astray. I was not perturbed. Upon giving the approximate date of my first admission as a reader, I was promptly identified, and furnished with a fresh ticket. One must make allowance for the feelings of "An Editor and Author." In my case it did not matter.

However, there is something amusing in the assumed capabilities of the attendant who ought to know. A wonderful individual must he be; his retentive powers almost beyond conception! Again, the attendant is not immortal; a man of many years' standing is succeeded by another, and the work of recognition begins afresh. The convenience of readers seems to me to be studied in every particular, and I think authors would endorse this. The Reading-Room is an immense boon, and I would say is as near perfection as such an institution can be. If there are no safeguards, what would it be?

J. S. L.

## M. CATULLE MENDÈS.

SOME ONE has happily said "Les poètes n'ont pas d'âge," and Catulle Mendès, whose accidental death was announced on Monday, preserved up to almost the last the joyousness and effervescence of youth, as witness his charming little notice in *Le Journal* on Sunday of 'Gavotte' by M. Croze, with music by M. Camille Saint-Saëns, revived at the Opéra on Saturday. A man of many talents, a novelist, a story-teller, a poet and dramatist, an accomplished critic of literature, drama, and music, Catulle Mendès just fell short of greatness in most of these, just as he failed to obtain election to the Académie Française—the greatest of French literary distinctions. The last of the "Parnassiens," he survived Coppée by only a few months, but had produced a greater quantity and variety of literary work than any of his early friends and contemporaries—Albert Glatigny, Villiers de l'Isle-Adam, Coppée, Sully-Prudhomme, Heredia, and Verlaine.

Born at Bordeaux on May 22nd, 1841, he went to Paris at the age of eighteen, and immediately started writing. He founded in 1861 *La Revue Fantaisiste*, with Coppée, Villiers de l'Isle-Adam, and other Parnassians as contributors; and one of his own poems, 'Le Roman d'une Nuit,' procured him celebrity in the form of a 500-franc fine and a month in prison. His first volume of verse, 'Philomela,' appeared in 1864, and in the succeeding forty-five years the stream of his literary productions has never ceased; sometimes one a year and sometimes more. His first book of

verse was followed in 1869 by a poem entitled 'Hespérus,' obviously and admittedly inspired by a study of Swedenborg; and this was rapidly followed by 'Contes épiques' (1870), 'Odelette guerrière,' and 'La Colère d'un Franc-tireur,' both of which appeared in *l'année terrible* of 1871. Before this he had turned his attention to working for the stage, and had dramatized Théophile Gautier's 'Le Capitaine Fracasse,' which, with music by Émile Pessard, was produced at the Opéra Comique. 'La Partie du Roi,' a one-act comedy in verse, was published in 1872. In the interval the Franco-German War had given him fresh material for his pen, and we have a vivid picture of the siege in 'Les 73 Journées de la Commune du 12 mars au 29 mai, 1871,' which appeared in 1871. From about 1877 he issued a long series of novels and short stories, most of which had appeared serially, and all of which indicated a vivid and almost inexhaustible wealth of imagination—though they were unfit for the reading of *la jeune fille*. There can hardly be any doubt that these stories did much to keep the author outside the pale of the Académie.

In addition to his numerous novels and collections of stories, he published in 1884 'La Légende du Parnasse contemporain,' a volume of literary and historical studies which will always rank high as the history of an interesting literary movement in which the author was one of the chief figures. As showing his versatility, it may also be mentioned that in 1881 he published, under the title of 'La divine Adventure,' a translation of the 'Confessions' of Cagliostro. In the eighties of the last century a number of his plays were staged. His most important piece 'Les Mères ennemis,' a drama, was produced at the Ambigu Comique in November, 1882. Others were 'Le Châtiment,' also a drama in verse (1887); 'Gwendoline,' an opera, with music by Emmanuel Chabrier (1886); 'La Femme de Tabarin,' a *comédie-parade* (Théâtre Libre, 1887); 'Isoline' (Renaissance, 1888); 'Fiammette' (Théâtre Libre, 1889); 'Le Docteur Blanc,' which achieved a great success at the Menus-Plaisirs; 'Les Frères d'Armes,' a drama produced at the Cluny; 'La Maison de la Vieille,' and so forth. Quite recently one of his plays was staged in Paris with success; and he was shortly to have read at the Théâtre Réjane a new play on the subject of Napoleon with the title 'L'Ile d'Elbe.'

If Mendès knocked in vain at the doors of the Académie, he at least enjoyed one official success, for in July, 1895, he was *décoré*, and given a banquet by his friends and admirers—Silvestre, Dierx, Coppée, and Heredia among others. From his speech on this occasion the following passage is well worth quoting:—

"D'ailleurs, l'amour des Lettres, la fervente passion de la Beauté, ne faisait pas de moi une exception dans la groupe aujourd'hui immémoriale qu'on appelle tout à tour les Fantaisistes, les Impassibles, les Parnassiens; nous nous donnions l'un à l'autre l'exemple de la Foi en notre art, comme nous donnions l'un à l'autre l'exemple de la loyale, de la tendre camaraderie. Nous fûmes des poètes qui aimions bien la poésie et qui s'aimaient bien entre eux."

Mendès married Mlle. Judith Gautier, daughter of Théophile Gautier, an accomplished woman, who has written a good deal, and survives her husband. The marriage was not a happy one.

W. R.

#### AN ARABIC AUTOGRAPH AT LINCOLN'S INN.

In an old Admission Book of Lincoln's Inn is an inscription in Arabic as to which

a strangely false tradition has grown up—false as to its date and as to its writer, and incorrect as to its matter. This inscription was reproduced with admirable exactness in Lane's 'Student's Guide through Lincoln's Inn'—the first edition of which appeared in 1803—and the following explanatory note was appended:—

"This [plate] contains the signatures of Charles the Second and his suite, who became members of Lincoln's Inn in 1671. Among the persons who accompanied his majesty on that day was the Turkish Ambassador, who, as is common with Mussulmans, has prefaced his signature with the usual profession of faith and invocation for mercy. These seem to be written in a Turkico-Arabic dialect, which is found very difficult at the present time to understand: the letters, too, are not clearly formed. The following translation, however (which was procured from the India Office), we doubt not will be found correct:—

"Praise to the one God. The signature of the humble Alhajh allah Mohammed, the son of Mohammed-Sahy allah, son of Abukerai. God be merciful to him."

This translation has been copied from Lane's 'Guide' into the margin of the Lincoln's Inn Admission Book, and so has, to this extent, received the official sanction of the Inn. Now the first thing to be said about this autograph is that it is not on the same page as the signatures of King Charles II. and his suite, as it would appear to be from Lane's reproduction. It bears no date, and there is nothing whatever to connect it with the other signatures. Lane's facsimile of the autograph was reproduced in the Appendix to the printed transcript of the 'Black Books' of Lincoln's Inn, and Mr. W. Paley Baildon, in his note on it, expresses more than a doubt as to the correctness of Lane's story. He says that there is no record of any Turkish Ambassador having been in England in 1682; and, on the authority of a passage in Luttrell's 'Diary,' suggests that the autograph was probably that of the Moorish Ambassador then accredited to the English Court.

That I may without breach of continuity say all that I have to say about this autograph, I will here for a moment interrupt myself to note that the Moorish Ambassador—or Morocco Ambassador, as he was always called—was undoubtedly admitted a member of the Royal Society about this time. The 'Journal Book' of the Society states, under the date of April 26th, 1682, that the whole time of the meeting on that day was spent in entertaining the Morocco Ambassador, and that "He was pleased to inscribe his name in the book among the Fellows of the Society in a fair character in Arabic."\*

For this and other information concerning the Ambassador in connexion with the Royal Society, and also for the privilege of examining his autograph in the Roll of the Society, I am indebted to the courtesy of Mr. R. W. F. Harrison, the Society's Assistant Secretary and Librarian. Prof. Arnold (Professor of Arabic in the University of London, and Librarian of the India Office) has, at my request, very kindly given a great deal of time and trouble to the study and comparison of these two inscriptions in the books of Lincoln's Inn and the Royal Society. In the first place, he tells me that they are both undoubtedly written by the same hand. This certainly identifies the writer of the autograph at Lincoln's Inn as the Morocco Ambassador, even if we had no other proofs. But we know from an old newspaper—*The Loyal Protestant and True Domestic Intelligence*—that the Morocco Ambassador visited Lincoln's Inn on March 4th, 1682, and wrote his name

\* May 31st, 1682. The Morocco Ambassador being admitted an honorary member of the Royal Society, and subscribing his name and titles in Arabic, was depputed by the Council to go and compliment him.—Evelyn's 'Diary.'

in the same book in which Charles II. and his suite had done the "Society the Honour to enter their names in heretofore."

Prof. Arnold entirely confirms the statement of his predecessor at the India Office as to the difficulties presented in the Ambassador's script. He says that the character of the writing in both the Lincoln's Inn and the Royal Society books gives him the impression that the Ambassador was writing with an instrument to the use of which he was not accustomed—with a goose-quill, probably, instead of his native reed-pen.

Before I go on to Prof. Arnold's translations of the two inscriptions, I must say a word or two as to the Ambassador's name. It is a matter of deep mystery. It apparently was so from the beginning. I have already quoted the earlier India Office translation as given by Lane, and that supplies us with one version of his Excellency's name. The Royal Society has an engraved portrait of the Ambassador, which is inscribed "His excellency Hamet Ben Hamet Ben Haddu, Ottoman Ambassador Extraordinary from the Emperor of Morocco to His Majesty of Great Britain in the year 1682." The editor of Evelyn's 'Diary' (William Bray) says the Ambassador's name was Hamet. Anthony Wood says that on his Excellency's portrait at Oxford the name carved on a brass plate was Hamet ben Hamet ben Haddu Ottur; but this, he adds with prompt discouragement, is false. On a separate slip of paper he has noted:—

"Mohamed son of Mohamed son of Haddu, of the province of Ohtor, of the family of Bahamwār, of the kingdom of Sus—this is the name of the Morocco ambassador in England in 1682, as in the King's letters to the Université or vicechancellor for his reception."

Unfortunately, this letter from the King cannot now be found at Oxford, neither can the Ambassador's portrait. My thanks are due to Mr. A. Cowley, of the Oriental department of the Bodleian Library, for kindly searching for them.

The Ambassador visited Cambridge also; and at Trinity College "he called for a Pen and Ink," an old journal tells us, "and wrote his name, and the name of his master the Emperor with all his Titles and Dominions, in the Arabic Language, which was interpreted by the Secretary into Spanish, which is kept in the said university amongst their Antiquities."

This seems to have been the only autograph of the Ambassador accompanied by a translation into a European language; and it would probably have been decisive as to his Excellency's name if it could have been found. Prof. E. G. Browne, Prof. A. A. Bevan, and Dr. A. W. Verrall—to all of whom I here record my thanks—have searched every place where it was at all likely to be found, and have consulted every one who was at all likely to know anything about it; but it cannot be traced.

I now come to Prof. Arnold's translation of the Lincoln's Inn autograph. It is, he tells me, as follows:—

"Praise be to God alone! Written by the servant of the wise, the pilgrim to God, Muhammad ibn Muhammed ibn Haddu, belonging to Sus, the Bahamwār. May God be gracious unto him! Amen."

Or, he adds, the name may be literally transcribed "Muhammed ibn Muhammed ibn Haddu, al-Susi, al-Bahamwār." "You will notice," he writes, "that where my predecessor has 'the humble,' I translate 'the servant of the wise.' These words are very difficult to decipher in the Lincoln's Inn entry, but appear clearly in the Royal Society's Charter Book."

He adds his reasons for differing in other respects from the earlier India Office translation, which I need not detail here. "The inscription in the Royal Society's Charter Book," Prof. Arnold continues,

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Though Prof. Arnold has consulted some of the ablest Arabic scholars, as well English as native-born, he has been unable to fill up the gaps in the Royal Society's inscription. A.D. 1682 is equivalent to A.H. 1093.

I should add, while I am speaking of these inscriptions, that on the same page in the Lincoln's Inn book which contains the Ambassador's autograph there follows, with some little intervening blank space, this signature in ordinary script: "Alhajah Mahamed Lacos (?) Abençerahe." It has been believed that this was an English transliteration of the Ambassador's name, written by some one at Lincoln's Inn at the time of his visit there, as some sort of key to the identity of the writer of the Arabic autograph. I am strongly inclined to think, however, that it is the signature of the Ambassador's secretary. Abençerahe or Abençerahe is the name of a well-known Moorish family that was long domiciled in Spain; and we know from the account of his Excellency's visit to Cambridge that he was accompanied by a secretary who wrote Spanish. "As to the English signature in the Lincoln's Inn book," says Prof. Arnold, meaning this autograph in the ordinary script, "I do not think that it can possibly be the same name as in the Arabic inscription."

I cannot conclude this note without recording my thanks to Prof. Arnold for all the valuable help he has given me, and the kindly willingness with which he has given it.

W. C. BOLLAND.

### "MRS. SHAXSPERE" IN THE LAW COURTS.

It is well known that William Shakespeare, his family, and his friends were frequently connected with lawsuits in Stratford-on-Avon; but it has not yet been noted that his mother also appeared, in one case at least, under conditions not quite clear.

Among the Miscellaneous Documents, Stratford-on-Avon, Vol. VI., is a narrow strip of paper numbered 168. It begins:—

"Jurie between Robert Reed, plaintiff, and John Sadler, defendant, in a pleyn of trespass committed."

"List of Jury: Phyllip Grene; Ralph Lourd; Valentine Taunt, Jur.; Robert Bydell, Jur.; Rycharde Dyxon; William Wyat, Jur.; Rycharde Boys; Hough Piggon, Jur.; Edmund Watt; Rycharde Taylor, Jur.; Nycholas James, Jur.; George Percy; Thomas Sharpe, Jur.; Humphrey Wheeler; Thomas Brydges; Julian Shawe, Jur.; Robert Wyson; John Knignt; William Tetheron; Rycharde Pinck; George Mase, Jur.; William Slater, Jur.; George Rose, Jur.; Thomas More, Jur."

At the foot of the page, apparently unconnected with the above, is another entry: "Capiat Rycharde Junpe at the suit of John Cooke in assumption for ecurrytage for iii<sup>rd</sup> vi<sup>th</sup> viii<sup>th</sup> to paye at Stratford fair next."

Endorsed upside down, and hence on the back of the later entry, appears—

"Maria Shaxspere, Jur.  
Jone Reade.  
Jane Baker, Jur."

Now can it be taken that these women were also on the jury, or were they

\* This seems to be the case described in the same volume of Miscellaneous Documents, VI. No. 176. Robert Reade was a surgeon. John Gibbs was dangerously wounded June 10th, 37 Eliz. John Sadler, his intimate friend and neighbour, summoned Robert Reade, and promised him 10*l.* if he should cure Gibbs. This sum Sadler refused to pay after the cure had been effected.

only sworn witnesses? One of these they must have been. Of the three women's names, one was apparently ruled out, Jone Reade, probably related to Robert Reed, plaintiff. The case is undated, and one gathers no clues from the calendar. I have looked up the dates of all the names mentioned in the Stratford Registers, and find that it cannot have been heard later than 1597, as Robert Bydell was buried December 28th, 1597. Of the others, Thomas Sharpe was buried August 18th, 1608, and "Marye Shaxspere, Wydowe," on September 9th: "Jane, daughter of Richard Baker, Shoemaker, 23rd Sept., 1613," though the entry might really refer to Jone, wife of Daniel Baker, who was buried May 16th, 1600.

It seems almost certain that this Maria was the wife of John Shakespeare and the mother of William. There is not another of the name in the Stratford Register; and had she been one of the Rowington Shakespeares, her place of residence would naturally have been mentioned as a distinction. It is therefore possible that the poet learnt some of his knowledge of law terms from the experience of his mother.

CHARLOTTE C. STOPES.

### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

#### ENGLISH.

##### Theology.

Beet (J. A.), The New Testament, its Authorship, Date, and Worth, 1*l.* net.

Bigg (C.), The Spirit of Christ in Common Life: Addresses and Sermons, 6*l.* net. Selected and edited by the Dean of Christ Church, with an introduction by the Bishop of Oxford.

Brewster (E. J.), Memorials of a Past Ministry: Sermons, 3 vols., 2*l.* each.

Carnegie (Rev. W. H.), Churchmanship and Character, 3*l.* net. Consists of three years' teaching in Birmingham Cathedral.

Eps (K. S. and M. B. van), Rejoice Always; or, Happiness is for You.

Ford (Rev. H.), The Art of Preaching; or, The Secret of Pulpit-Power, 2*l.* With preface by the Archdeacon of London. New Edition.

Irwin (Rev. C. H.), John Calvin, the Man and his Work, 2*l.* With portraits and numerous other illustrations.

Lewis (F. Warburton), The Work of Christ, 2*l.* net. A series of sermons. In the Methodist Pulpit Library.

Slack (S. B.), Early Christianity, 1*l.* net. In Religions Ancient and Modern.

Wilkins (Rev. H. J.), Faith Healing, 1*l.* net. A plea for greater recognition in the Church and by the medical profession.

##### Law.

Oppenheimer (H.), Criminal Responsibility of Lunatics, 10*l.* net.

Wade-Evans (A. W.), Welsh Medieval Law, 8*l.* net. The text of the laws of Howel the Good.

##### Fine Art and Archaeology.

Berks, Bucks, and Oxon Archaeological Journal, January, 1*l.* Edited by the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield.

Conwentz (H.), The Care of Natural Monuments, with Special Reference to Great Britain and Germany, 2*l.* net.

Coxhead (A. C.), Thomas Stothard, R.A.: his Life and Work, 3*l.* net. Illustrated.

Hughes (H.) and North (H. L.), The Old Cottages of Snowdonia, 3*l.* net. With numerous illustrations.

Konody (P. G.), Brockwell (M. W.), and Lippmann (F. W.), The National Gallery, Part 7, 1*l.* net.

Mortimer (F. J.) and Coulthurst (S. L.), The Oil and Bromoil Processes, 1*l.* net. No. XXXL of the Amateur Photographer Library.

Nature Pictures: Portfolio of Photographs from Life, 7*l.* net.

Pottier (E.), Douris and the Painters of Greek Vases, 7*l.* net. With 25 illustrations.

##### Poetry and the Drama.

Bell (Mackenzie), Poems, 2*l.* net.

Datta (Roby), Echoes from East and West, to which are added Stray Notes of Mine Own, 5*l.* net. Besides touching on many Indian subjects, the book ranges from Homer to Queen of Gloucester and Scandinavian mythology.

Fyvie (J.), Tragedy Queens of the Georgian Era, 12*l.* net. Accounts of actresses from Mrs. Barry to Lady Becher, with 16 illustrations.

Graham-Barr, Thoughts in Solitude: The Story of the Bramble, and other Poems, 4*l.* net.

Ingleby (H.), Wenceslaus and Sabra, 2*l.* net. A poem.

Olipham (W. Elwin), The Story of German Song, 3*l.* net. Shakespeare, The Tempest 2*l.* net. Edited by F. J. Furnival in the Old Spelling Edition.

Wolfe (C.), The Burial of Sir John Moore, and other Poems, 1*l.* net. With a colotype facsimile of the original manuscript of 'The Burial of Sir John Moore,' and an introductory memoir by C. Litton Falkiner.

##### Music.

Brahms (Johannes), 10*l.* net. Deals with the Herzogenberg correspondence, edited by Max Kalbeck, translated by Hannah Bryant, with portrait.

#### Philosophy.

Brackett (E. A.), The World We Live In, 2*l.* net. Essays on the relations between this world and the unseen.

Butler (A.), A Dictionary of Philosophical Terms, 1*l.* net.

In the Miniature Reference Library.

Deserti (V. C.), Psychic Philosophy as the Foundation of a Religion of Natural Law, 4*l.* net. With introductory note by Alfred Russel Wallace.

Eckartshausen (Karl von), The Cloud upon the Sanctuary, 3*l.* net. Third Edition. Translated and annotated by Isabelle de Steiger, with an introduction by Arthur Edward Waite.

Hudson (W. H.), Herbert Spencer, 1*l.* net. In Philosophies Ancient and Modern.

Prichard (H. A.), Kant's Theory of Knowledge, 6*l.* net. An attempt to think out the nature and tenability of Kant's Transcendental Idealism.

Reade (W. H. V.), The Moral System of Dante's Inferno, 12*l.* net.

Sidis (Boris), Psychopathological Researches: Studies in Mental Dissociation, 8*l.* net. With text figures and 10 plates.

#### Political Economy.

Dutt (R. C.), Famines and Land Assessment in India, 3*l.* net.

George (W. L.), Labour and Housing at Port Sunlight, 3*l.* net. With several illustrations.

Withers (H.), The Meaning of Money, 7*l.* net. The object of the author is to explain a matter of positive, practical fact, which is important, dull, and little understood, and to do so as clearly as may be.

#### History and Biography.

Alford Family Notes, Ancient and Modern, compiled by Josiah George Alford, and edited by W. P. W. Phillimore.

Birrell (Augustine), Selected Essays 1884-1907, 1*l.* net. Includes the essays on Milton, Dr. Johnson, Gibbon, and Cowper. New Edition. In Nelson's Shilling Library.

Canning, George, and his Friends, 2 vols., 30*l.* net. Contains hitherto unpublished letters, &c., edited by Capt. Joceline Bagot, with illustrations.

Hitchcock (F. R. Montgomery), The Midland Septa and the Pale, 3*l.* An account of the early Septa and later settlers of the King's County, and of life in the English Pale.

Inquisitions and Assessments relating to Feudal Aids, with other Analogous Documents preserved in the Public Record Office, 12*l.* net. Staffor-Worcester.

Journal of John Mayne, 12*l.* net. Deals with a tour on the Continent upon its reopening after the fall of Napoleon, 1814, edited by his grandson, John Mayne Colles, with numerous illustrations.

MacNutt (F. A.), Bartholomew De Las Casas, his Life, &c., 15*l.* net.

South African Who's Who, 1909, 21*l.* net.

#### Geography and Travel.

Daniels (H. G.), Chelmsford with its Surroundings, 1*l.* In the Homeland Handbooks, No. 67.

Hyatt (A. H.), The Charm of Paris, 2*l.* net. An anthology, in large type, fine-paper edition.

Pennell (T. L.), Among the Wild Tribes of the Afghan Frontier, 16*l.* net. Being a record of sixteen years' close intercourse with the natives of the Indian Marshes, with an introduction by Earl Roberts, and 37 illustrations and 2 maps.

#### Sports and Pastimes.

Benson (E. F.), English Figure Skating, 1*l.* net. A guide to the theory and practice of skating in the English style.

Hutchinson (General W. N.), Dog Breaking, 2*l.* net. Popular edition.

#### Education.

Eliot (C. W.), University Administration, 6*l.* net. A book on American universities.

#### Philology.

Farmer (J. S.) and Henley (W. E.), Slang and its Analogues, Past and Present. Revised edition, Vol. I. Parts II. and III.

Gray (T.), A Concordance to the English Poems of, 10*l.* net. Edited by Albert S. Cook.

Menardos (Simos), The Value of Byzantine and Modern Greek in Hellenic Studies, 1*l.* net.

#### School-Books.

Bell's Literature Readers: Fenimore Cooper's Last of the Mohicans; Mrs. Ewing's Six to Sixteen; Mrs. Gatty's Parables from Nature; Kingsley's Water Babies; Harriet Martineau's Feats on the Fjord, 1*l.* each.

Johnson (A. H.), The Age of the Enlightened Despot, 1660-1789, 2*l.* net. With 11 maps. In Six Ages of European History.

Sainte-Beuve (C. A.), Canseries du Lundi, 1*l.* net. Translated, with an introduction and notes, by E. J. Treshman.

Scott's Tales of a Grandfather, 1*l.* net. Edited, with introduction and notes, by P. Giles. In English Literature for Schools.

Senter (G.), Outlines of Physical Chemistry, 3*l.* net.

Shakespeare's Merchant of Venice, Midsummer Night's Dream, edited by K. Harvey, 1*l.* net each.

Stevenson (R. L.), Kidnapped, 1*l.* net. Edited, with introduction and notes, by J. Harold Boardman.

#### Science.

Balfour (A.), Third Report of the Wellcome Research Laboratories at the Gordon Memorial College, Kharoum, 21*l.* net.

Bennett (Sir William), Injuries and Diseases of the Knee-joint considered from the Clinical Aspect, 5*l.* net. Relates the experience of one who has had somewhat extensive opportunities for becoming familiar with the subject.

Crèvecoeur (J. H. St. John), Letters from an American Farmer, 6*l.* net. Reprinted from the original edition of 1782, with preface by W. P. Trent, and introduction by Ludwig Lewisohn.

Finn (F.), Wild Beasts of the World, Part IX., 1*l.* net. With coloured illustrations by L. Sargent, C. E. Swan, and W. Austen.

Hancock (E. L.), Applied Mechanics for Engineers, 8*l.* net. Hepburn (E. B.), Artificial Waterways and Commercial Development, 4*l.* net.

Hobart (H. M.), *Heavy Electrical Engineering*, 16/- net.  
 Ibbetson (W. S.), *The Theory and Practice of Electric Wiring*, 5/- net.  
 Skinner (Walter R.), *The Mining Manual*, 1909, 15/- net.  
 Spitta (Edmund J.), *Microscopy*, 12/- net. Treats of the construction, theory, and use of the microscope. Illustrated.  
 Spruzheim (J. G.), *Phrenology*, 12/- net.  
 Stubbs (H. P.), *Consider the Butterflies, How They Grow*, 3/- net. With 7 illustrations.  
 Watson (F. S. and Cunningham (J. H.), *Diseases and Surgery of the Genito-Urinary System*, 2 vols., 63/- net.  
 Wharton (Sir W. J. L.), *Hydrographical Surveying*, 21/- A description of means and methods employed in constructing marine charts, with diagrams and illustrations. New Edition, revised and enlarged by Rear-Admiral Mostyn Field.  
 Wright (H. J. and W. D.), *Beautiful Flowers and How to Grow Them*, Part VIII., 1/- net. With coloured illustrations. *Fiction.*

Bailey (H. C.), *Springtime*, 7d. net. In Nelson's Library.  
 Barr (Robert), *Strangle's Millions*, 6/- A series of episodes showing the wonderful uses to which the millions were put.  
 Dalby (W.), *Captain Vanion's Business*. Tells of a scoundrel's dealings with natives under cover of philanthropy.  
 Field (C.), *Tales of the Caliphs*, 2/6 net. In the Romance of the East Series.  
 Fiss (May L.), *With Powder Puff and Dagger*, 6/- A series of short stories and society sketches.  
 Herbert (A.), *The Measure of our Youth*, 6/- A story of modern life.  
 Holland (A.), *The Mind of the Duchess*, 1/- A story of smart society.  
 Hill (Heddon), *Links in the Chain*, 6/- An "atmosphere of black mystery" is attained.  
 Idesleigh (Earl of), *Iron Chaloner*, 6/- A tale of Jacobite and Hanoverian intrigue.  
 Morrison (A.), *Green Gingins*, 6/- A series of short stories.  
 Murray (David Christie), *His Father's Honour*, 6/- With illustrations. A story of blackmail.  
 Pain (Barry), *The Gifted Family*, 6/- Deals with the careers of three talented people. The scene is laid at a bookseller's shop in the Finchley Road.  
 Perrin (Alice), *Idolatry*, 6/- Depicts the struggle between the World and the Spirit, as portrayed in the two central characters of the book.  
 Podmore (C. T.), *The Fault*, 6/- A story of passion and temptation.  
 Snaith (J. C.), *Araminta*, 6/- A comedy of a country cousin in Mayfair.  
 Tynan (Katherine), *Peggy the Daughter*, 6/-  
 Wells (H. G.), *Tono-Bungay*, 6/- The hero's philosophy of life, founded upon his sombre experiences, is expounded towards the close.

*General Literature.*

Averbury (Lord), *Peace and Happiness*, 6/- A series of short essays dealing with happiness, the body, the mind, aspiration, &c.  
 Edwards (E.), *Personal Information for Young Men*, 1/- net.  
 Gray (Victor) and Taylor (G. R. S.), *The Problem of Parliament*, 5d. net. A criticism and a remedy.  
 Mulholland (J. Shaw), *The Predominant Partner*, his Rights and his Duties, 2/6 net. A book on the relations between Ireland and England.  
 Reformers' Year-Book, 1908, 1/- net. Edited by Clifford D. Sharp. The present volume, besides containing much fresh matter, has undergone rearrangement and modification.  
 Stetlitz (C.), *Principles of Successful Church Advertising*, 5/- net.  
 Stephen (Leslie), *Hours in a Library*, 3 vols., 3/- net each. New Edition.  
 Weale (B. L. Putnam), *The Coming Struggle in Eastern Asia*, 12/- net.  
 Ziegler (H.), *We Germans and our British Cousins*, 6d. net. A German business man's point of view.

*Pamphlets.*

London County Council: *Indication of Houses of Historical Interest in London*, Part XXIII., 1d.  
 Smith (G. C. Moore), *Marlowe at Cambridge*. Reprinted from *The Modern Language Review*.  
 Swinton (A. A. C.), *The Occlusion of the Residual Gas and the Fluorescence of the Glass Walls of Crookes Tubes*. Reprinted from the *Proceedings of the Royal Society*.

*FOREIGN.*

*History and Biography.*

Dutrait-Crozon (H.), *Précis de l'Affaire Dreyfus*, 6 fr.  
 Lemoine (J.) et Lichtenberger (A.), *Trois Familiers du grand Condé*: l'Abbé Bourdelot, le Père Talon, le Père Tixier, 5 fr.  
 Martens (F. de), *Recueil des Traitées et Conventions conclus par la Russie avec les Puissances étrangères*: Vol. XV. *Traitées avec la France, 1822-1906*. Supplies both Russian and French text.  
 Nouailhat (J.), *Villeroy*, 1543-1610, 10 fr.  
 Waliszewski (K.), *Le Berceau d'une Dynastie*: les premiers Romanov, 1613-82, 8 fr.  
*Fiction.*

Foleij (C.) *Tuteur*, 3 fr. 50  
 Tinscan (L. de), *Sur les deux Rives*, 3 fr. 50  
 Waltz (Madame R.), *La Vie intérieure*, 3 fr. 50

<sup>2</sup> All Books received at the Office up to Wednesday Morning will be included in this List unless previously noted. Publishers are requested to state prices when sending Books.

## Literary Gossip.

'A BISHOP IN THE ROUGH,' which Messrs. Smith & Elder will publish towards the end of this month, is the record of eight adventurous years in the early

life of Dr. Sheepshanks, the present Bishop of Norwich. Pioneer priest in British Columbia, missionary to gold miners and aboriginal Indians, he was also a notable traveller. The book is edited and supplemented by the Rev. D. Wallace Duthie, and has a Preface by the Bishop, and several illustrations.

MR. UNWIN will publish this spring a volume by Prof. Hugo Münsterberg of Harvard on 'Psychology and Crime.' Its object is to draw attention to the field in which psychology and law come into contact. It deals mainly with the mind of the man in the witness-box. Among the subjects discussed are: Illusions, The Memory of the Witness, The Detection of Crime, Traces of Emotions, Untrue Confessions, Suggestions in Court, Hypnotism and Crime, and The Prevention of Crime.

MESSRS. METHUEN are publishing 'The Last King of Poland and his Contemporaries,' by Mr. R. Nisbet Bain, and 'The Conflict of Religions in the Early Roman Empire,' by Mr. T. R. Glover, who attempts to treat Christian and Pagan with equal goodwill and honesty.

DR. MAHAFFY's Boston (Lowell) lectures will presently be published by Messrs. Putnam of New York. The author has been selected by the Governing Board of Trinity College, Dublin, to represent the University at the quincentenary celebration to be held at Leipsic next July.

THE REV. JOHN WILLCOCK, author of the Life of the Earl of Argyll who cooperated with Monmouth, is engaged upon a 'Life of Clarendon,' in which he will utilize the extensive materials in connexion with the period which have come to light since Lister's 'Life' was published. A special feature of the work will be the treatment of Clarendon's ecclesiastical policy after the Restoration and its effect upon the history of the Church of England.

DR. J. N. FIGGIS has now concluded his Hulsean Lectures at Cambridge, which have attracted a good deal of attention. They are to be published with additions by Messrs. Longman, under the title of 'The Gospel and Human Needs.'

THE March issue of *Chambers's Journal* includes the third instalment of Mr. A. Stodart Walker's 'Celebrities I Have Known.' Mr. E. Bruce Low writes on 'The Threefold Victory in Roslin Glen'; Mr. E. Reynolds-Ball on 'Mogador: a Potential Winter Resort'; while one who knew Stevenson furnishes 'A Reminiscence of R. L. S.'

SINCE Lord Rosebery's address to the Old Edinburgh Club the membership has mounted to over 220. A membership of 300 is desired, and seems likely soon to be achieved.

NEXT Wednesday there is an important sale of books at Gravesend. There are some three thousand volumes of general literature; also nearly a thousand lots of scarce books dealing with Kent, Essex, and other parts of the country, chiefly the East, South-East, and North. In addition there are some rare specimens of early printing, not all of them to be found in the British Museum.

In the March *Sunday at Home* Sir Oliver Lodge, Mr. William Watson, Prof. Cheyne, Dowden, and Driver, the Bishop of Truro, Mr. A. C. Benson, Sir Donald MacAlister, and others discuss the question, "Which is the most magnificent passage in the Bible?" Principal Fairbairn writes on Calvin; and Miss A. E. Keeton on 'Compton and G. F. Watts.' An article on 'The Gambling Mania among the Working Classes' is contributed by a writer who has mingled with operatives in our great cities.

THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ANTIQUARIAN BOOKSELLERS seems to be making satisfactory progress. At the annual meeting, held at Anderton's Hotel on the 4th inst., a membership of 237 was reported, including many well-known booksellers on the Continent and in America. Mr. W. J. Leighton was elected President for 1909, and Mr. Frank Karslake of 35, Pond Street, Hampstead, to whom all communications respecting the Association should be addressed, was re-elected Hon. Secretary.

THE LONDON TOPOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY will hold their tenth annual meeting in the Lecture Theatre, Burlington Gardens, next Friday afternoon. Lord Rosebery, as President of the Society, will deliver an address.

THE LORD MAYOR will preside at the nineteenth Readers' Dinner, to be held at the Holborn Restaurant on Saturday, March 20th. Sir George Wyatt Truscott is the head of the well-known City printing firm.

THE AUTHORS' CLUB have arranged a banquet at the Hôtel Métropole on March 1st to celebrate the centenary of Edgar Allan Poe. Sir A. Conan Doyle will preside, and the chief guests will be the American Ambassador and Capt. Poe, the senior living representative of the poet's family. Recitations from Poe's works will be given, and an Ode for the occasion written by Mr. Herbert Trench.

THE annual meeting of the members of the Booksellers' Provident Institution will be held at Stationers' Hall on March 16th. The meeting will be followed by a Conversazione, at which the Lord Mayor has kindly promised to deliver an address.

IT is proposed to erect a memorial tablet at Castle-Douglas, and another at Newton Stewart to Joseph Train, the friend of Walter Scott.

THE philologist Dr. Johann von Kelle, whose death at the age of eighty-one is announced from Prague, was Professor of German Language and Literature at the German University of that town from 1857 to 1898. He was one of the last surviving pupils of the brothers Grimm, under whom he studied at Berlin. His extensive knowledge and thoroughness are exemplified in his edition of Otfried's 'Evangelienharmonie,' which includes a translation and a glossary, and on which he worked for twenty-six years. Among his other works is a 'Geschichte der deutschen Literatur von der ältesten Zeit bis zum dreizehnten Jahrhundert.'

## SCIENCE

## BOOKS ON BIRDS.

*The Birds of Tierra del Fuego.* By Richard Crawshay. (Quaritch.)—It is eminently fitting that the work of describing the birds of what Capt. Crawshay calls this "land of mystery" should have been undertaken by a naturalist so capable of doing justice to the theme. Given the opportunity of a six months' stay in the island in the breeding season, another man with sufficient enthusiasm for exploring the forgotten by-ways of the earth might have shown the same ardour in surmounting the difficulties in the way of the collector, and might even have been fortunate enough to obtain as good results; but few indeed could have written as Capt. Crawshay has done of the scenes of his labours. As a piece of descriptive writing the twenty-seven pages of preface are as good as anything we have read for a long time. "For weaklings," he says,

"and for those who cling to luxury it is no country. To the robust, reasonably optimistic, and open-minded, I commend it in all confidence—above all, to those who would realize the Earth as God created her. In Tierra del Fuego, man is face to face with Nature and her greatest forces untamed and unrestrained, to an extent perhaps unequalled anywhere else in the world."

He is ready to endorse the judgment of Sir John Narborough, who in 1670 testified that "a man hath an excellent stomach here. I can eat Foxes and Kites as savourily as if it were Mutton. Nothing comes amiss to our stomachs." To many "the wind from the everlasting snows and glaciers, always blowing with terrific force and with cutting keenness, yet how invigorating and fragrant with forest and peat and seaweed!" might seem a sufficiently appalling accompaniment to the unutterable desolation of this storm-ridden land. Yet there are numerous favourable testimonies to it.

Capt. Crawshay enters a vehement protest against the prevailing idea that the natives are the most degraded of mankind. The Onas, at any rate, he describes as a magnificent race. These are some of his first impressions on seeing one of them:—

"A gigantic form robed in shaggy furs from head to foot—erect, motionless, silent—regarding me with a gaze so impressive and intense, that as I encountered it, my whole being experienced a shock. A man indeed!.....a frame physically and constitutionally as strong as can be, resource in any emergency, determination, courage recking nothing of cost to life or limb in the achievement of purpose, untiring patience, endurance to the end, intelligence the outcome of instinct and reason so combined as to place him on equal terms alike with man and the lower creation.... But what impresses one most of all is his magnificent dignity and reserve—so natural, as to be impossible of compromise. That stern, calm, thoughtful, deeply-lined, awfully solemn face—so full of expression of all that is greatest and best in Man, yet manifesting nothing evil—will dwell with me to my dying day."

It is not difficult to understand Capt. Crawshay's indignation when he speaks of the painful fact that this race has been, in recent times, deliberately brought to the verge of extermination.

Of the lower animals, far the most interesting and characteristic is the guanaco. This creature—a curious combination, it is explained, of camel, deer, and sheep—stands to the Onas for food, clothing, and equipment, but plentiful as it was at one time, it is now, like them, approaching extinction. The introduction of sheep-farming on a large scale has had strangely far-reaching effects on the fauna of the country, apart from any contributory causes

arising from the practices of the shepherds. That these sheep should be the object of unwelcome attentions from predatory creatures, winged and otherwise, is not, of course, surprising; chief among their persecutors are the gigantic, wolf-like fox, and that sinister bird the carancho, of whose evil deeds a most unattractive picture is painted. Unwittingly enough, the sheep themselves have proved destructive of life in one direction in a remarkable manner, for the mole-like *Ctenomys magellanicus*, which honeycombs the open country in a wholesale and most troublesome manner, is said to be trampled out of existence by the large flocks. But it is in the case of the geese that their presence has been indirectly responsible for the greatest changes. The eating down of the brushwood by the sheep leaves a growth of fine short grass exactly to the liking of the geese. Thus we find that *Chloephaga dispar*, a resident in Tierra del Fuego throughout the year, has within recent times increased prodigiously; Capt. Crawshay writes that they will nest right out on dry, open ground, often within a few yards of the track. "Never," he says, "are you out of sight or hearing of geese, grazing, squatting, and ever rising and gaggling, as you go your way." Almost equally numerous in the lowlands is *C. rubidiceps*, which begins to appear as a summer visitor early in September. "After seeing none, a pair appears mysteriously here and there, and these increase from day to day until there are countless thousands." This ruddy-headed goose, it is to be observed, has hitherto been recorded only from the Falkland Islands, and its total omission from previous lists is significant of the fact that it did not appear in anything approaching its present numbers before the sheep had prepared the way.

Of the seventy-nine different species here described, many are now recorded for the first time, and it is certainly strange that such birds as the black-necked swans, which Capt. Crawshay found in vast numbers on the lagoons of the north coast, should have escaped all mention from Darwin and other observers. It could not reasonably be expected that the present work should in any way exhaust the subject of the bird life of the island; it represents the unaided labours of a single man for a limited space of time over a wide and difficult area, and as such it is surprisingly comprehensive. It is probably an oversight that *Phalacrocorax atriceps*, which is abundant in the Straits of Magellan, is omitted from the list. The South Orkneys might have been included in the habitat of *Sterna hirundinacea* and *Larus dominicanus*.

Capt. Crawshay has a great liking for long extracts from other writers, and no one will quarrel with the quaint, shrewd quotations from Sir Francis Drake, Sir Richard Hawkins, and Capt. Cook; but whole pages in the original French and Spanish of D'Orbigny and Azara are hardly likely to be so generally appreciated. Again, however interesting it is to find our homely barn owl (in one of its innumerable variations) and the short-eared owl represented in Tierra del Fuego, it seems out of place to quote at length Waterton or Lord Lilford on the useful habits of these birds.

The twenty-one coloured plates are a valuable addition to the book, and are executed in Mr. Keulemans's best style. They include the fine grey eagle, a rarity on the island, which has previously been described as preying almost exclusively on migratory pigeons, but in Capt. Crawshay's experience confined its attentions to rodents,

and never touched a bird. Noteworthy, too, is a picture of the puzzling *Attagis malouinus*, which, with many of the outward characteristics and habits of a gallinaceous bird, is nevertheless now classified among the Limicola. Exception may be taken to the decidedly green feet of *Podiceps americanus*; Capt. Crawshay himself calls them only dark grey, inclining to green, and they have been pronounced an uncompromising black by Mr. M. J. Nicoll. It is certainly a matter for regret that additional plates have not been given, particularly of some of the new specimens of which records were obtained. An index is a desideratum, but a good map is supplied, and is supplemented by a number of photographs of faithfully dreary landscape. Author, artist, and publisher alike are to be congratulated on producing this handsome book, which incidentally deals admirably with other subjects besides ornithology.

*The World's Birds.* By Frank Finn. (Hutchinson & Co.)—Under the comprehensive title of this small volume Mr. Finn has attempted much the same task as that which Mr. Pyrcraft had before him in his 'Book of Birds,' reviewed in these columns on September 19th. It is interesting to note the different lines upon which these experienced ornithologists have proceeded, and compare the advantages of each. Perhaps the happiest results would have been obtained if the two methods could have been blended. Mr. Finn, in face of the great divergence of opinion among the highest authorities regarding a systematic grouping of birds in their proper "Orders," disclaims from the first any semblance of classification of this sort. "Families" are disposed of alphabetically, with little or no attempt to show their relationship. Now "family" is an elastic term, and while one may be represented by a single species, e.g. the whale-headed stork (missing from the Index), another is so huge as to include all Passerine birds, comprising, that is to say, more than half the known species, and the great bulk of the feathered population of most countries. For Mr. Finn does not recognize its many subdivisions as having more than sub-family value, although he has dealt with the various groups by discussing typical species in some detail. Again, the juxtaposition, for instance, of ostrich and owl, except for the purposes of an index, seems unfortunate; while any kinship existing between scattered families like those of rhea, cassowary, and ostrich is necessarily lost sight of under such conditions. In fact, whatever merits this scheme of decentralization may possess, they are considerably discounted by the inevitable lack of cohesion between the separate units; and if the alphabetical arrangement is to be adhered to, an appendix becomes almost essential to a scientific study of the subject. Here the missing links might be supplied—if only tentatively—and the whole puzzle more or less pieced together on some rational basis.

Apart from these considerations, we have nothing but praise for this excellent handbook. The practical form in which the information relating to each family is given is admirable, and it is wonderful how much is contained in such a small compass. Mr. Finn is always a model of lucidity and conciseness, and the eye is greatly assisted by the fact that everything has been tabulated throughout under the various headings of size, form, plumage and coloration, young, nest, eggs, incubation, courtship, food, gait, flight, note, disposition and habits, economic qualities, captivity, distribution, and important species. Each family is

introduced by a short diagnosis in plain, untechnical English.

The illustrations are fairly numerous, and are for the most part from photographs of living specimens belonging to the Zoological Society, being purposely selected from the most unfamiliar forms.

As in Mr. Douglas Dewar's former book 'Bombay Ducks' (Athen., July 28th, 1906), so in *Birds of the Plains* (Lane) the forty-two chapters have already appeared in various Indian newspapers, in which they must have formed a considerable attraction. For though not severely scientific, the descriptions are accurate, and, at the same time, attractively written with abundant humour. The wonder, perhaps, is how the author, who is apparently a member of the Indian Civil Service, could find time and energy to write the articles; for, as a rule, the members are worked hard, and he seems to have been employed in all three Presidencies as well as at Lahore, an experience uncommon amongst the younger men, but of advantage in collecting information for preparing a book of this sort. As there has recently been an outcry against the sparrow and his destructive ways in this country, Mr. Dewar may be quoted:—

"It is the custom to speak of the sparrow as a curse to the husbandman. The bird is popularly supposed to live on grain, fruit, seedlings, and buds—those of valuable plants by preference. There is no denying the fact that the sparrow does devour a certain amount of fruit and grain, but, so far from being a pest, I believe that the good it does by destroying noxious insects far outweighs the harm."

Ordinarily this is probably correct; but there are seasons, of which the past is one, specially favourable to nesting, the result being an abnormal increase of birds and undoubted damage to crops. The remedy, however, is not to organize yearly destruction, which might have evil results, but to let each person who is aggrieved wage war on his enemies.

Writing of the adjutant, a gigantic stork possessed of a great pouch which dangles from his bare neck, Mr. Dewar explodes a story which, if not *vero*, was *ben trovato*. In essentials it was thus. An adjutant perched in an exposed position was being bullied by many crows, who flew round him, getting nearer and nearer as their boldness increased with impunity. At last one came too close, and the great beak opened and shut with a snap. The crow was caught, and his struggles were seen as he slipped down the pouch. The rest of the crows, struck with awe, departed, and the adjutant remained at his post, placid as before. Now, alas! we are told that the bag does not communicate directly with the oesophagus.

"Knowing this, one is able to appreciate to the full the splendid mendacity of the writer to *Chambers's Journal* in 1861, who declares that he witnessed an adjutant swallow a crow, which he watched 'pass into the sien-a-toned pouch of the gaunt avenger. He who writes saw it done.'

Curiously enough, Mr. Dewar does not mention the fact that the most certain place to find adjutants was on the top of Government House, Calcutta. There they stood like sentries, and when one went another relieved him, with great regularity. Perhaps the unrest has spread to them, and they have deserted their old post.

Most persons who have lived some years in India know the cobbler or tailor bird, so called because it sews leaves together to form its nest; but we have never seen the operation nor heard it described. Mr. G. A. Pinto, "a very keen ornithologist," had the good fortune to see the hen at work.

A suitable plant having been selected, she began operations on one of its leaves so curved that its terminal half was parallel with the ground.

"The first thing she did was to make with her sharp little beak a number of punctures along each edge of the leaf. In this particular case the punctures took the form of longitudinal slits, owing to the fact that the veins of the *Dracaena* leaf run longitudinally. In leaves of different texture the punctures take other shapes. Having thus prepared the leaf, she disappeared for a little, and returned with a strand of cobweb. One end of this she wound round the narrow part of the leaf that separated one of the punctures from the edge; having done this, she carried the loose end of the strand across the under surface of the leaf to a puncture on the opposite side, where she attached it to the leaf and thus drew the edges a little way together."

Similarly she treated the other punctures, and the leaf assumed the shape of a section of a cone; the smaller end was filled with cotton, elaborate lining was introduced, and the little bird worked hard enough "to disqualify her for membership in any trade union."

Many other birds are described, but we must conclude with the barn owl, which every one except Bosworth Smith's German professor knows: that gentleman, on shooting one, exclaimed in triumph, "Zee, I have shot von schnipe mit einem face Push cat." So a small Scotch boy, frightened out of his wits by seeing one staring at him in the dark, ran to his parents, exclaiming that he had seen a fearful sight, and, when asked to describe it, said: "It had a body like a chicken and a head like a caat." Mr. Dewar says the face of the owl when awake is heart-shaped; "when the bird is asleep it is as long as that of a junior Madras Civil Servant as he looks over the Civil List." The volume is admirably turned out.

*The Birds of the British Islands. Parts IX. and X.* By Charles Stonham. (Grant Richards.)—The greater part of these two instalments deals with what we may term the vanishing aristocracy of our avifauna, and in bringing his account up to date Mr. Stonham has often shown a praiseworthy reticence, and refrained from supplying too particular details with regard to the present-day status of these victims of persecution. The doomed birds of prey have afforded Miss Medland material for some of her finest work. In the case of the harriers the plates properly bring out the differences both between the species and between the two sexes of a species—points which are often imperfectly appreciated. In certain instances mistakes in identification have been made from the fact that the hen-harrier is in the main a winter visitor, and Montagu's harrier a summer migrant, and that the one will replace the other unnoticed with the change of the season. Mr. Stonham adheres to the view that Montagu's harrier "is not, and never was, a resident species," though this statement has been challenged in the 'Birds of Hants' (Kelsall and Munn); on the other hand, his assertion that the hen-harrier "now is only met with as a breeding species...in the wilder parts of England and Wales" is sufficiently ambiguous to be misleading. We have before praised the lucidity of the letterpress, but there are a few unfortunate lapses. Thus when we read (of Montagu's harrier again) that "this species appears to be more partial than its congeners to snakes and other reptiles than to mammals," the effect is that produced by a fantastically worded riddle. To the use of "like" as a conjunction Mr. Stonham is particularly prone.

Seemingly averse from making statements on his own authority, Mr. Stonham seldom casts any new light on his subject. Even so, he appears not unfrequently to reject deliberately material of which he might have been expected to avail himself. For instance, the nesting habits of the goshawk are described in a perfunctory way, without the slightest mention of its having attempted to breed in England. The fact that a female goshawk was shot at a nest containing four fresh eggs in Grosmont, Yorkshire, in 1893 is well established; and even if it be conceded that it may have been an escaped bird and that no mate was seen, the point should not have escaped mention. We note that while the white stork and the purple heron are admitted to a place in the portrait gallery, the beautiful squacco heron is excluded. In the case of the white stork it might have been stated that many specimens have been imported into this country and have afterwards obtained their liberty. Curiously out of place in this distinguished company seem the cormorant and the shag, but they are none the less interesting on that account. There is no doubt that in many localities the poaching proclivities of the cormorant have been undeservedly visited upon its smaller relative, the two species being placed on the black list without any discrimination. Mr. Stonham does something to rehabilitate the shag when he writes that it is "a strictly oceanic bird...nor does it frequent rivers and inland lakes like the cormorant."

#### THE HAIRY AINUS OF JAPAN.

DWARFED creatures, covered with hair, half monkeys, half men, cowering for shelter beneath the burdock leaves in unapproachable forests—such were the Ainus of which I learnt at school. Ardent believers in Darwin's views of our ancestry quoted this race as affording a striking illustration of the truth of his theories, and some rumours reached our class that the small, hairy human creatures had tails.

Alas that the truth must deal a blow to these pretty fancies! I have lately seen the Ainus, have spoken with them and walked with them in the virgin forests of the land they now inhabit, and my pulses are stillled. I can testify that the portrait imagination had painted of them was a travesty.

Yet all romance and strangeness are not gone from them, and in their distant land they are living a life so different from that led in England that it may be of interest to tell of their ways and appearance. Driven from the main island of Japan by the Japanese, they now live in the northern island of Yezo, and in some outlying islands where they form small communities apart from the Japanese, for whom they feel little friendship.

The first Ainu man I saw reminded me instantly of the popular conception of an Old Testament patriarch, and I thought at once of Abraham as he must have looked before his hair grew white. The fine face of this man of sixty years included a slightly Jewish nose and deep-set eyes, and was crowned by a halo of thick hair which fell just to his shoulders, and stood out bushily all round his head. Round his brow was bound a brightly coloured handkerchief, which intensified the illusion. This type is common among the older men; and of all the Ainu men I saw, only one was ugly and unintelligent in appearance, and he was obviously the village idiot. The men are short, it is true, seldom exceeding 5 ft. 5 in. in stature; but pygmies they are

not, and that the strength The Ainu notable ferocious eyes to receive the fire of the one, derided by the which the w and older short entire representation of the either pattern come and side turned it a fine type band waving like fore sion great than as Yes not fac So two tif an in ap

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not, and so thick-set and broad-shouldered that they have the appearance of great strength and manliness.

The Ainu man differs widely from the Ainu woman. This fact is all the more notable because among the Japanese the difference is often very slight, and in the eyes of a foreigner it may be impossible to recognize the sex of an individual during the first and last ten years of life. The Ainu woman looks ill-fitted to be the mate of the Ainu man, for the faces of the older ones, and many even of the girls, are rendered startling and somewhat repulsive by the curious dark-green tattoo-marks which are heavily scored on them. Many of the women are much shorter than the men, and more thick-set; indeed, some of the older ones are almost square, and have such short lower limbs that their figures are entirely lacking in grace, alike in motion and repose. Their hair is worn without ornament or dressing, very little longer than that of the men, and falls in waving locks on either side of their broad faces. The typical pattern of the tattoo-marks is one which comes in a thick curved line both above and below the lips, and continues on either side almost to the ears, where it suddenly turns upwards. At a very short distance it gives them the appearance of wearing a fierce moustache of the "es ist erreicht" type. Across the forehead run one or two bands of similar colour, either straight or waving, and going from temple to temple like the unwelcome wrinkles on Western foreheads. The transformation of expression resulting from these ornaments is so great that at first one can hardly believe that the women belong to the same race as the keen, intelligent, handsome men. Yet among the younger women who have not been tattooed the bright expression of face shows them to be fit mates for the men. Sometimes the girls are most attractive—two of those I saw were distinctly beautiful, even according to our own standards; and all of them appear quick and vivacious in comparison with the inscrutable calm and apparent stupidity of the Japanese women.

To-day the Ainus are a subject race, having been driven further and further back in Japan by the Japanese, until they hold only a part of the northern islands. In truth, they have but a precarious foothold in the land, which is now entirely under the Japanese, and is every year increasingly cultivated. They live in villages or groups apart from the Japanese, in houses of a different shape from those common in the country. Indeed, their houses are little more than straw huts, with a curiously high roof (or should one say low walls, which make the roof look out of all proportion?) with many tiers of thatching. The women ride into the Japanese villages, sitting cross-legged on the backs of mares which are followed by frisking foals. Here they sell the vegetables they bring with them in great baskets, and buy soap and thread and all such things as they cannot make themselves. This last class of article is rapidly increasing in number, for the old Ainu industries and individual products are dying out, and the arts of weaving, carving, cloth-making, and many others are becoming lost among them. The men still hunt, but bears are much fewer now than they were in the old days when the great bear feasts and festivals were originated, and warriors of valour were decorated with a crown, the ornament of which was a bear's head rudely carved in wood. Those on the coast go out to sea to fish, in boats with square-ended prows, some of which are still rudely carved. The fishing villages are placed to be avoided by all but the most enthusiastic anthropologists,

as the stench of the fish, which they allow to rot in some peculiar manner, is unutterable.

The people call to each other in harsh tones, in words with short syllables in which *k* is apparently the most frequent letter—a language very different from the soft and poetical speech of the conquering Japanese. In the names of places, *p* is very common, as many descriptive adjectives begin with this letter in Ainu, but often this is changed to *h* in Japanese; for example, the place Poronai is always spoken of, and is even written up at the railway station, as Horonai by the Japanese. Writing is an unknown art among the Ainus—not even a forgotten one, like pottery-making—and it does not seem likely that it will now be evolved by a people who are rapidly dying out of the land they have lost.

M. C. STOPES.

#### SOCIETIES.

GEOLOGICAL.—Jan. 27.—Prof. W. J. Sollas, President, in the chair.—The following communications were read: 'The Conway Succession,' by Miss Gertrude L. Elles, D.Sc.,—and 'The Depth and Succession of the Bovey Deposits,' by Mr. A. J. Jukes-Browne.

MICROSCOPICAL.—Jan. 20.—Annual Meeting.—Lord Avebury, President, in the chair.—Mr. J. E. Conrady and Mr. J. I. Pigg were appointed by the President as scrutineers of the ballot for officers and Council for the ensuing year.—A reflecting microscope, made by Amici, presented to the Society by Mr. S. R. Roget, was exhibited, and was described by Mr. Rousselet, by whom it was regarded as a very valuable donation, as the Society had not hitherto possessed an instrument of this type.—Mr. Conrad Beck exhibited and described an instrument, invented by Dr. Leslie Buchanan, consisting of two small microscopes with negative eyepieces converged at an angle, and used as a binocular instrument for the examination of the eyes of patients by oculists.—Mr. F. Watson Baker (for Messrs. W. Watson & Sons) exhibited a new form of portable microscope and a student's microscope of new design called the "Standard."—Mr. F. Plaskitt exhibited some high-power photomicrographs of Podura scales, taken to show their transverse markings, a short paper descriptive of the exhibit being read.—The Report of the Council for 1908 was read by Dr. Hebb. The Treasurer also submitted his statement of accounts and duly audited balance-sheet.—The President, in moving that the Report of the Council and the Treasurer's balance-sheet be received and adopted, said that, though their balance was only small, it was satisfactory to note that it was on the right side. The motion was carried by acclamation.—The following gentlemen were elected as officers and Council for the ensuing year: President, Sir Edwin Ray Lankester; Vice-Presidents, F. J. Cheshire, Rev. W. H. Dallinger, Sir Ford North, and E. J. Spitta; Treasurer, Wynne E. Baxter; Secretaries, R. G. Hebb and J. W. Gordon; ordinary members of Council, F. W. Watson Baker, A. N. Disney, J. W. H. Eyre, E. Heron-Allen, H. G. Flimmo, T. H. Powell, C. Price-Jones, P. E. Radley, Julius Rheinberg, C. F. Rousselet, F. Shillington Scales, and D. J. Scourfield; Librarian, P. E. Radley; Curator of Instruments, &c., C. F. Rousselet; Curator of Slides, F. S. Scales.—The President then read his annual address, entitled 'On Seeds, with Special Reference to British Plants.' In this he more particularly dealt with the seeds of Gymnosperms and Monocotyledons, in continuation of the address of the previous year, in which the seeds of Dicotyledons were considered. The following were elected:—Ordinary Fellows: F. W. Gordon, E. Heath, R. Kennedy Levett, and E. J. Sheppard.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Feb. 2.—Mr. J. C. Inglis, President, in the chair.—The paper read was 'On Heat-Flow and Temperature-Distribution in the Gas-Engine,' by Prof. Bertram Hopkinson.—It was announced that 30 candidates had been admitted as Students.—The monthly ballot resulted in the election of 4 Members and 22 Associate Members.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—Jan. 26.—Annual Meeting.—Prof. W. Ridgeway, President, in the chair.—The President delivered his anniversary address on 'The Relation of Anthropology

to Classical Studies,' in which he pointed out the results that had followed from the use of the anthropological method in the study of the classics. Subjects which had long been obscure, or which had given rise to wild speculations, took upon themselves in the light of anthropology a clear meaning. For example, Aristotle's account of the origins of Greek society—an account which had long perplexed scholars—can be explained by comparing it with institutions still surviving amongst primitive peoples; but it is only of recent years that any such comparison has been made, or such an explanation given. It is, however, not only in the domain of sociology or religion that such a comparative method is of service. The art of the Greeks, for example, can be shown to have been at one time in a stage comparable to that of the modern savage, from which it has directly developed. Again, a knowledge of anthropology will be of great service to an intelligent understanding of classical literature. The attacks which have been made on classical studies, and especially on the teaching of Greek, are in great measure due to the classical scholars themselves, who by their pedantry and their indifference to scientific method have caused the reaction which has set in against these studies. But if ancient literature and history are studied in the light of anthropology, much that was obscure will be explained, much that was imagined to be erroneous will be found to be true. To help to make the classics live is the part of anthropology.

ARISTOTELIAN.—Feb. 1.—The meeting took the form of a "Symposium," to which Dr. Bernard Bosanquet, Mrs. Sophie Bryant, and Mr. G. R. T. Ross contributed papers. The subject discussed was 'The Place of Experts in Democracy.' Dr. Bosanquet dealt with Plato's criticism of democracy. The distinction between the specialist expert and the expert in statesmanship was touched upon. Next the discrepancy between Plato's caricature of democracy and modern democratic constitutions was pointed out. There is no reason against finding the analogue of what we call democracy in the spirit of Plato's perfect State. That is characterized by three important principles, viz. (1) every creature in the commonwealth is to have a right and duty that satisfies its nature; (2) the career open to the talents; (3) the equal utilization of the abilities of the two sexes in public functions. Democracy, like the Platonic State, does not forbid a highly autocratic administration by the right person. But this is not a specialist; at least he is one whose specialty is to be a "consummate artificer of freedom." Thus the conflict between the doctrinaire of the mere specialist and the ignorance of the layman is to be reconciled.

Mrs. Bryant divided the experts connected with government into three classes: (1) the rulers, (2) specialist advisers, (3) executive officials. The conflict between different classes of specialists was dealt with. Mrs. Bryant preferred to assimilate modern democracy to the type of the "mixed State" in Plato's "Law"; yet in Plato we miss sufficient guidance as to the means by which his experts are, in the first instance, selected for special education. In the modern State selection and training are, for the most part, phases of a single process. Competition for distinction in local government paves the way for fitness to enter Parliamentary life, and within this sphere selection and education go hand in hand.

Mr. Ross criticized the assumption that the selective experience which rulers undergo must necessarily produce the best type of expert in governing. It is often held that democracy leads to the predominance of the mediocre. There are reasons, however, for rejecting this doubt, as no real democracy can survive which does not secure the service of men of exceptional talent. Democracy also requires the high development of the political intelligence of the governed. The theory that democracy means mediocrity is supported by an illusion to which artists are specially susceptible. The anti-democratic thought of Nietzsche is a case in point.

CHALLENGER.—Jan. 27.—Sir John Murray in the chair.—'Notes on the Breeding Habits and Development of *Littorina littorea*,' by Mr. W. M. Tattersall, were communicated by Mr. E. W. L. Holt. On changing the water in the aquarium for fresh seawater, copulation of the periwinkles was readily induced. The eggs are deposited in small capsules shaped like a Panama hat, and are not attached, which accounts for their not having been recorded hitherto. Of the four British species of *Littorina*, *littorea* is exposed only at low spring tides, and is freed as a trochosphere, later becoming a veliger; *obtusa* is generally exposed at ordinary low water, and is freed as a veliger; *rudis* is exposed during the greater part of the day, and is viviparous;

*neriloides* lives between the high water of springs and neaps, and is also viviparous. Both in habit and life-history these four seem to represent stages in the adaptation to a land existence.—In describing the 'British Oithone,' Mr. G. P. Farran pointed out that they are four in number and inhabit respectively waters of low salinity, ordinary coastal waters, oceanic waters bordering on the coastal area, and purely oceanic waters. Structural modifications accompany the increase in salinity of the different habitats.—A paper by Mr. S. W. Kemp dealt with the four species of 'Polychetes from the N.E. Atlantic,' and included notes on their habits and on the structure of the vestigial eye.—Mr. E. W. L. Holt exhibited a new species of Rhinichthys, which he regarded as the adult of immature specimens known as *Harriotta*, a view which gave rise to some discussion.

## MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

MON. Royal Academy, 4.—Preliminary—to the Sculptors of To-morrow. Lecture I., Prof. W. R. Colton.  
—Mr. T. Okely.  
—Institute of British Architects, 8.—Town and Country: some Aspects of Town Planning. Mr. H. V. Lanchester.  
—Society of Arts, 8.—Modern Methods of Artificial Illumination. Lecture I., Mr. Leon Gaster (see *Meetings*).  
TUES. Royal Institution, 3.—The Architectural and Sculptural Antiquities of India. Lecture III., Prof. A. Macdonald.  
—Statistical, 3.—Forestry in some of its Economic Aspects. Prof. W. Sowerby.  
—Institution of Civil Engineers, 8.—The Design of Marine Steam Turbines. Mr. S. J. Reed.  
—Zoological, 8.30.—The Fauna of the Cocos-Keeling Atoll. Mr. F. Wood-Jones: 'Contributions to the Anatomy of certain Ungulates, including Tapirus, Hyrax, and Antilocapra.' Dr. E. L. Trouessart.  
WED. Meteorological, 8.—Report on the Phenomenal Observations for 1908. Mr. E. Mawley: 'The Cold Spell at the End of December, 1908.' Mr. W. Marriott.  
—Forests—Hunting Tribes in the Hills of Assam.  
—Microscopical, 8.—On a German Silver Powell Portable Microscope made in 1850. Mr. A. A. C. E. Merlin: 'The Red Snow Plant, *Sphaerella nitidis*'. Mr. G. S. West.  
—Society of Geog., 8.—The Commercial Relations of France and Great Britain. Mr. Guy Guyot.  
THURS. Royal Institution, 3.—Problems of Geographical Distribution in Mexico. Lecture I., Dr. Hans Gadow.  
—Royal Academy, 4.—Preliminary—to the Sculptors of To-morrow. Lecture II., Prof. W. R. Colton.  
—Royal, 4.30.  
—Historical, 8.—Annual Meeting: President's Address.  
—London Institution, 8.—St. Paul's Cathedral. Canon W. Benham.  
—Linnean, 8.—Discussion on 'Alteration of Generations' by Dr. W. H. Lang.  
—Chemical, 8.30.—A Study of some Asymmetric Compounds. Mr. F. S. Kipping: 'The Decomposition and Sublimation of Ammonium Nitrate under Heat.' Mr. P. C. Ray; and other Society of Antiquaries, 8.30.  
—Geological, 8.—Annual Meeting.  
—Institution of Civil Engineers, 8.—Standardisation in Engineering Practice. Lecture I., Dr. W. C. Unwin. (Students' Lecture).  
—Institution of Mechanical Engineers, 8.—Annual Meeting: Discussion on 'The Filtration and Purification of Water for Public Use'.  
—Royal Institution, 8.—Recent Advances in means of saving Life in Coal Mines. Sir H. Cunynghame.  
SAT. Royal Institution, 3.—Chamber Music. Sir A. C. Mackenzie.

## Science Gossip.

THE only Parliamentary Papers likely to be of interest to our readers this week are Agricultural Statistics: Vol. XLIII., Part IV., Colonial and Foreign Statistics (6d.); and Further Correspondence relating to the preservation of Wild Animals in Africa (1s. 3d.).

A MEDICAL MONTHLY made its first appearance with the New Year at Calcutta. It is entitled *The M. S. Journal*, and is edited by Dr. S. K. Mullick, of the Medical Service. Among the contributors are Sir Alexander R. Simpson, Dr. Herschel, and Major A. R. S. Anderson.

JOHN BLACKWOOD writes:—

"In *The Athenæum* of Feb. 6 appears a review of 'Reminiscences, Personal, Professional, and Philanthropic,' by Dr. Blackwood, M.D. Classing Dr. Blackwood with another author, the reviewer writes: 'Both are men of delicate sensibility . . . whose foibles and mistakes we readily forgive, even when, as in Dr. "Blackwood's" case, the pylorus is described as a part of the intestine "which measures nine inches in length." A "mistake" this indeed for any doctor to make. Perhaps you will allow me to show how it appears in my book, p. 107:—

"The food, now converted into chyme, passes into the pylorus, which is about nine inches in length and is the medium of communication between the stomach and the intestinal canal which receives the chyme."

The author writes "pylorus" when he should have written "duodenum." The pylorus is the outlet of the stomach, and is a mere

ring; the duodenum is the first part of the small intestine. *Sylvestre Bonnard* can hardly be called "another author."

AN informal dinner was held at the Criterion Restaurant, Piccadilly, on Monday last, at which the formation of an Illuminating Engineering Society in this country was the subject of discussion. The scheme was warmly approved, and it was agreed unanimously that *The Illuminating Engineer* should be appointed the official organ of the society. For further particulars application should be made to Mr. Leon Gaster, 32, Victoria Street, S.W.

THIS year being the tercentenary of the invention of the telescope, Mr. Arthur Mee of Llanishen, Cardiff (author of the annual handy guide 'The Heavens at a Glance'), has issued an interesting illustrated little 'Story of the Telescope,' in which a concise account is given of the successive improvements in the instrument, both of the refracting and reflecting kind, together with a list of the largest which are at present in use. The booklet contains also a well-selected summary of astronomical dates from the time of Copernicus, and another of important works in different departments of astronomy. It is to be obtained of the author.

NO fewer than fourteen small planets are announced as having been photographically discovered at the Astrophysical Institute, Königstuhl, Heidelberg: four by Prof. Max Wolf—one on the 18th, and three on the 28th ult.; nine by Herr Kopff—three on the 18th, one on the 24th, two on the 26th, and three on the 28th; and one by Herr Lorenz on the 22nd.

SOME large spots, visible to the naked eye, have passed over the sun recently. Examination showed remarkable changes in their size and shape. The period of abundance has been unusually protracted, an epoch of minimum being due next year.

WE have received Nos. 122-45 of papers communicated from the Oxford University Observatory to the *Monthly Notices* of the Royal Astronomical Society and other scientific periodicals. The majority of these are by Prof. Turner himself, and several are of great interest, particularly with reference to variable stars, and the classification of those of a long period, with a suggested physical interpretation of the effects produced. Prof. Turner and Mr. Lewis contribute a paper on the inclination of binary star-orbits to the galaxy, and Mr. H. C. Plummer one on a mechanical solution of Kepler's problem.

M. FLAMMARION'S *Annuaire astronomique et météorologique* has appeared for 1909, and contains, as usual, not only ample information as a guide to observation during the year (including the positions of the planets, and maps of the constellations visible each month), but also an extremely interesting account of the progress of astronomy during 1908. Meteorological data are of course furnished; as well as a review of the climatic conditions, as compared with those of previous years, registered at Juvisy during 1907. Some remarkable effects of thunderstorms, which occurred on the 6th of July and the 9th of December in that year, are described.

HERR FRITZ GOOS of Bonn discusses in No. 4300 of the *Astronomische Nachrichten* the spectroscopic observations of a Persei in the line of sight, and arrives at the conclusion that that star is moving in a circular path with a period of about 290 days.

## FINE ARTS

## OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Modern Art.* By Julius Meier-Graefe. 2 vols. (Heinemann).—Books on modern art are not rare in these days, and the reviewer usually knows their contents before hand. He knows they will set forth in easy fashion and with tolerable correctness the views accepted in the better-informed circles, and will aim at supplying a vade-mecum wherein the reader will find all that is necessary to enable him to pass as a person of culture. All the more is it a pleasure to come for once upon an author who scorns this safe path, and refrains from adding a further coating of plausibility to other men's opinions. Among so many echoes which become every day more unreal and suspicious, here is a voice. Herr Meier-Graefe has the courage of his convictions. He has a point of view, and it leads him to judgments often refreshingly at variance with those currently accepted, and the result will be found highly stimulating by those to whom, as to himself, art really means something.

IT is, indeed, to this small class of readers only that the book will be entirely satisfactory. It opens with a complaint that "the amount of talking and writing about art in our day exceeds that in all other epochs put together," which contrasts humorously with the torrent of words which follow (close on 650 closely written pages), at times garrulous, at times obscure, but always repaying the trouble it undoubtedly requires from the reader. Hardly any of this consists of the usual historic and biographical details. It is all "talking about art." With a copiousness which leaves us admiring and amazed, the author continues talking with undiminished zest till the end. Had Herr Meier-Graefe spent another year in distilling the essence of this diffuse causerie into one-third of the space, he might have produced a statement of his point of view that would have been definitive.

As it is, his artistic principles hardly find explicit statement, yet make their presence felt throughout. So, one thinks, might the great artists have written if they had not been better employed, and to catch the gist of the message calls, perhaps, for some small inside practical acquaintance with the subject. The book must be read with sympathy as well as literal understanding, being, indeed, a vindication of the sensuous side of art as the predominating element. "Art," we are told,

"is not of the feminine gender for nothing. She mocks at the intelligence of the thinker, and throws herself into the arms of the man who happens to be born handsome. The exertion necessary to overcome her is certainly of an intellectual kind, but it is remote from the icy eminences of purely personal consciousness."

Here, in fact, we have one of those apparently arbitrary statements of specifically artistic merits and demerits which are periodically necessary to counterbalance the tendency of literary criticism to be misled by plausible imitations, and the circumstance that the statement is made with a certain violence does not, perhaps, lessen its utility. We confess to a certain glee at the merciless dissection of "the portrait manufacturers," as our author terms Reynolds and his school. Summary justice was called for as a wholesome corrective to "wholesale idolatry." So also the severe chapter on Turner, if open to reservations, contains a solid kernel of truth. It is refreshing to find a writer on "modern art" who pushes his record a little nearer to the present, and ventures to declare his admiration for artists hardly

as yet canonized by the picture-dealer. To this courageous following-up of his principles to their logical conclusion we owe acquaintance with the charming design by Gauguin reproduced opposite p. 66, vol. ii. When, however, he extends his appreciation to Seurat's 'Le Chahut' (p. 312, vol. i.), we are compelled, while admiring his consistency, to recall his own dictum concerning certain amateurs, who "tolerate the most glaring defects—nay, even to a certain extent absolute incapacity—if some single quality is preserved which approves itself as unique." Notable also in the volumes are the due appreciation of Daumier as a painter, and the seeing of Whistler and Rodin in something like reasonable proportion.

*The Life of James McNeill Whistler.* By E. R. and J. Pennell. (Same publisher.)—There is in this book no criticism of Whistler's art to compare with Herr Meier-Graefe's clear-sighted chapters, indeed the position of Mr. and Mrs. Pennell as depositaries of the deceased artist's confidence has had the effect of making the work rather a storehouse of anecdote than anything else. It is surprising to find how large a body there remains of Whistler legends, nor is it to be denied that they are amusing reading, and an essential part of the artist's legacy to us.

This point is duly insisted upon. There are many who profess veneration for Whistler's painting and deprecate the time he wasted in frivolous posing. Perhaps in a little while we shall be admiring his seriousness and significance as a *poseur*, and lamenting the frivolity of some of the painting. In this book, however, is small attempt to sift the wheat from the chaff in the painter's output, and the man's little quarrels are for the most part recounted purely from one standpoint—Whistler's own. If this were admittedly the rule, a posthumous responsibility might in some sort be awarded to Whistler; but by defending one or two victims of the artist's dislike (Mr. Leyland and Mr. McClure Hamilton are examples), the authors of the book place themselves in a somewhat ungracious position. Thus when Whistler, at the trial of a question in the technique of lithography, allowed himself spitefully to complain that "distinguished people like Mr. Pennell and myself are attacked by an unknown authority (Mr. Walter Sickert), an insignificant and irresponsible person," it was surely an ebullition which an admirer of Whistler might, in kindness to his hero, have refrained from quoting, or mentioned as a symptom of that fantastic combative ness which only the lightest and most humorous manner could render tolerable. Mr. Sickert's criticism, as a matter of fact, is excellent in literary form, while it has behind it as much study and experience as any of the copious art-criticism which latterly, and largely on his initiative, has been written by members of the artistic profession. Something of this difficulty of apparent partisanship was perhaps inherent in the work Mr. and Mrs. Pennell have undertaken; otherwise their task is capably performed.

#### THE WORKS OF THE LATE HENRY OSPOVAT.

The collection of drawings by the above-named artist at the Baillie Gallery is not, we believe, a Memorial Exhibition in the ordinary sense of the word. Arrangements had been made with Henry Ospovat some time back for a representative show to be held at this date, and there seemed no reason why his untimely death at the beginning of last month should alter those arrange-

ments. We are thus made to feel the more poignantly, by how narrow a margin we have been balked of an adequate opportunity of appreciating in his lifetime an admirable artist.

How admirable he was we have never till now had proper demonstration. A few of his less successful studies in portraiture were shown at Mr. Baillie's Baker Street Galleries a year ago, along with a number of those caricatures which were his one point of contact with the general public, but were for the most part, by their very subject, hardly worthy of his talents. He contributed nothing else to London exhibitions, and his work as an illustrator suffered much in reproduction, so that the five volumes decorated by him offer a hint only of his peculiar powers. When executing a publisher's commission Ospovat almost always strikes us as derivative—as though, working for a public which has little respect for contemporary art, he hoped to slip by unobserved as a belated artist of the sixties. The first of his books, 'Shakespeare's Sonnets,' was a weak reflection of the weakest of the English Pre-Raphaelites, not characteristic works. In 'Matthew Arnold's Poems,' 'Men and Women,' and 'Shakespeare's Songs' the sturdier inspiration of Houghton and the like is occasionally combined with something of Fantin-Latour; and in his more independent drawings Fantin, and behind Fantin, Rembrandt, are seen inspiring the artist to steadily increasing force and originality, culminating in certain weirdly imaginative designs, and eloquently sympathetic drawings of Jews which bespeak powers of the highest order.

Already among the book-illustrations fine things are scattered. We may mention the delicate feminine figure, touching in its refinement in No. 69, *Two Young Fair Lovers*; the rich colour-quality of No. 70, *Why standest thou there, O Neckan?* or the web of delicate modelling which makes up the face in No. 83, *A Merry Heart goes all the Way*. In some of these we see a born lithographer gradually finding his way to his natural medium. His sense of the impalpable, mysterious quality of light was too strong to make a pure line process suitable.

In none of these did Ospovat achieve the extraordinary combination of beauty and actuality shown by Houghton at his best (indeed, no one has ever equalled Houghton on his own ground). No. 107, *Study for Illustration for an Eastern Tale*, shows what actuality meant for Ospovat—something more brutal in which character is simplified for plastic purposes. One feels that Rodin would claim the author of this powerful drawing as a kindred spirit. Another *Eastern Tale* (7) shows the artist a master in that realm of mystic invention which was probably his ultimate destination. It is stamped with the highest reality, but the reality of nightmare—the same quality which forces us to recognize in an occasional work of Odilon Redon the creation of a genius. Yet we cannot esteem less highly than this the different, but equally personal drawing *The Wandering Jew* (32), which we do not hesitate to rank as one of the finest dramatic illustrations that have been made in this country. In this perfect union of pictorial and plastic vision, a strong gossamer of line caresses the form with a tenderness which preserves its simplicity. Rembrandt might have realized thus the infinite patience of this majestic countenance, from whose smooth curves, as of a water-worn pebble, the sufferings of centuries fall away—powerless to fret its mournful resignation. The legend is made a vehicle for forcing even the frivolous to read something of the significance of the mystic calm of the East—to see it as the

ultimate smoothness taken on by a perishable material beneath the infinite drilling of the ages. To achieve this in a tiny pen-drawing indicates a man of mark.

We must note as only a little less fine, or at least less definitive than this, the vivid sketch *How long, O Lord?* (45) which takes a place somewhere between the two works last mentioned and *An Old Jew* (34), which is more in the vein of Houghton. The *Yiddish Provision Shop* (40) has something of the bitter story-telling emphasis we find in the work of Mr. Sidney Sime. There are, moreover, certain examples of Ospovat's portrait painting, one of which (we should fancy the earliest) has a sober power that commands respect. A charcoal *Portrait* (54) is also excellent in the manner of Fantin.

It will be seen that, among much immature and some obviously affected work, we have to recognize an artist of remarkable power and distinction, who has yet died in comparative obscurity at a time when every one is lamenting the decadence of the arts and the dearth of talent. That this should be so is a rebuke alike to promoters of artistic shows and critics. One has to search among much futility for neglected talent.

Complete neglect was not Ospovat's. Besides the books he illustrated for Mr. John Lane and Mr. Dent, he did a large number of caricatures, and with these achieved latterly a certain success. The general public was interested in him on condition that he did drawings of Harry Lauder and Little Tich in their public aspects, and to do work of this kind is, of course, not to caricature life, but to caricature some one else's caricature. To set an artist of Ospovat's powers to make a commentary on such people is a little as if one should set Rembrandt to make an interpretative etching of a drawing by—say Mr. Tom Browne. Thus, while all these caricatures display considerable ability (an uncatalogued drawing of Mr. Charles Sykes is one of the wittiest), they cannot as a series claim the interest and vitality of the later work, for example, of Mr. Max Beerbohm.

The illustrations to Poe exhibited by Baron Rosenkrantz in the further gallery suffer from such formidable comparison. After looking at the work of the deceased artist one sees that the drawings here are academic rather than imaginative. Two of them (13 and 14) are disgusting—as is clearly their intention—and may be set down as to that extent successful.

#### ETCHINGS BY LIVING ARTISTS.

At the gallery of Messrs. Connell & Sons a show of contemporary etchings is notable principally from the presence of some new plates by M. Eugène Béjot and the works of a new-comer, Mr. Andrew F. Affleck. Some of M. Béjot's plates are as good as ever—the *Pont Mirabeau* (19), the bold *Pont Bras de la Seine au Pont Marie* (45), or *Le Pont de Sévres, Bellevue* (54). Some of them are marred, in our opinion, by his introduction of little patches of soft ground etching which give a rough texture out of harmony with the daintiness of his scale of detail. Mr. Affleck is an artist of more uncertain taste, who is sometimes vulgar, but sometimes shows undoubted power; and too easy tolerance of commonplace is perhaps more remediable than lack of vitality. The melodramatic *Perugia* (55) and the better *St. Gervais, Paris* (48)—the latter subject suggesting lithography rather than etching as a medium—are the most favourable examples of his talent. There are also good plates by Miss H. Frood (6), Mr. E. M. Syrge (11 and 13), and Mr. William Walker (37).



### Musical Gossip.

MADAME TERESA CARREÑO gave a second pianoforte recital at Bechstein Hall last Saturday afternoon. Her programme opened with Beethoven's 'Appassionata' Sonata; and if there is nothing new to say of the work itself, her rendering of it claims notice. There was no attempt to over-accentuate the impassioned music. The interpretation was broad and dignified, interesting in that it showed individuality, and superb both as regards tone and technique. Beethoven's easy and delightful Rondo in G was played with refinement and due simplicity.

SIR ALEXANDER MACKENZIE delivered the first of two lectures on Mendelssohn at the Royal Institution last Saturday afternoon. The second will be given this afternoon. Next Saturday Sir Alexander's subject will be 'Chamber Music,' with illustrations (Schumann, Brahms, and Dvorák) by the Wessely Quartet.

THE LEIGHTON HOUSE COMMITTEE has arranged a series of seven concerts on the following dates: February 16th and 23rd, March 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th, beginning at 4.30. The programmes will include interesting unfamiliar works in Trio up to Nonet formation, for wind and strings. At the first will be heard Mozart's Trio for viola, clarinet, and pianoforte, and Beethoven's for flute, bassoon, and pianoforte (a posthumous work). The performers will be "The London Chamber Musicians," under the direction of Mr. Emile Gilmer.

Messrs. DENT & Co. will shortly issue a critical edition, with explanatory notes, of 'Beethoven's Letters.' The translation has been carried out by Mr. J. S. Shedlock, who also contributes the preface; and the notes have been supplied by Dr. A. C. Kalischer. This will be the first complete English edition of Beethoven's letters, and will contain over twelve hundred letters and notes.

We regret to hear of the death of Madame Clothilde Kleeberg, a talented pianist. Born at Paris in 1866, she studied at the Paris Conservatoire, and made her début at the early age of twelve. Her first visit to London was in 1883. In 1894 she married the sculptor Charles Samuel.

THE death is also announced, at the age of seventy-one, of James L. Molloy, who wrote a few operettas and songs, two of the most popular being 'Love's Old Sweet Song' and 'Thady O'Flynn.'

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK  
Royal Albert Hall

SUN.	Concert, 3.30, Steinway Hall.
TUE.	Wednesday Concert, 2.30, Queen's Hall.
SUN.	Sunday Lounge Concert, 7, Queen's Hall.
MON.	TUE. Royal Opera, Covent Garden.
MON.	Mr. Gottfried Galston's Pianoforte Recital, 3, Bechstein Hall.
	Royal Academy of Music, 3, Queen's Hall.
MON.	Wednesday Concert, 2.30, Queen's Hall.
TUE.	Miss Kate Phillips's Recital, 3, Bechstein Hall.
	Mr. Franz Léichner's Concert, 8, Eolian Hall.
	Misses Meyer's Recital, 8.15, Bechstein Hall.
WED.	Miss Jenny Meld's Orchestral Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.
	Miss Censchl Quartet, 2.30, Bechstein Hall.
	Mr. Ernesto Molinari's Concert, 8, Steinway Hall.
	Mr. Donald Tovey's Concert, 3.30, Chelsea Town Hall.
	Royal Amateur Orchestral Concert, 9, Queen's Hall.
THURS.	Philharmonic Concert, 8, Queen's Hall.
	Broadwood Concert, 8.30, Eolian Hall.
	Misses Hodge & Mott's Recital, 8.30, Bechstein Hall.
FRI.	Mr. H. H. H. Hadow's Piano Recital, 8.30, Bechstein Hall.
	Chappell's Ballad Concert, 2.30, Queen's Hall.
	Mozart Society, 3, Portman Rooms.
	Messrs. W. Sachie and Ernest Lengyel's Recital, 3, Bechstein Hall.
	Miss Fanny Davies's Pianoforte Recital, 3.15, Steinway Hall.

## DRAMA

## THE WEEK.

GARRICK.—*Samson: a Play in Four Acts*  
By Henry Bernstein.

THERE is always a suggestion of violence about M. Bernstein's stage work. He never hesitates to make use of physical force or mental torture if by such means

he can increase the tension of the emotional or nervous crisis round which he has written his play. He spares us no ferocity of speech, no harshness of action, no ugliness of character, which can help him to produce an impression of overpowering strength. Ordinarily, however, there is something redeemingly human in his dramas; painful as were some of the scenes of 'La Rafale' and 'Le Voleur', the love-interest of both pieces had its pathos and made a genuine appeal to the emotions. 'Samson' reveals its author's instinct for the theatre in its subtlest form, but so brutal is its story from first to last that it merely makes an attack on the nerves, and leaves the feelings of the audience cold. It shocks, it disturbs, it stuns, but it never creates completely an atmosphere of illusion. The playgoer gasps under the sledge-hammer blows with which M. Bernstein beats out afresh the old material of 'The Ironmaster' or 'New Men and Old Acres', but by the ruthlessness of his energy the dramatist half-defeats his purpose.

Some idea of the play may be got from its chief situation. Here we see a self-made millionaire revenging himself on his wife's lover by bringing about the aristocrat's financial ruin, though it involves his own fall and incidentally beggars thousands of innocent persons. The man of business invites his rival to lunch, and, when he has set in motion his operations on the Exchange, explains his plan and draws his guest's attention to the cries of the newsboys, who are already shouting "Panic on the Bourse," then when the trapped lover seeks to escape he holds him down half-strangled on the table, heaps on him abuse worthy of a bargee, and turns him out with the crowning insult of bidding him live on the earnings of a woman he has brought to shame. Does the brutality of M. Bernstein's methods need further illustration? If so, let us select two episodes from the career of the lover, Le Govain. Having persuaded a woman to pay his debts under promise of marriage, he leaves her in the lurch, robbed alike of fortune and of honour. Again, with the aim of compromising hopelessly the wife of his millionaire friend, he takes her to supper with a set of Bohemians whose conduct defies description. When details such as these are retained by the adapter, it hardly seems to matter very much that he has made the heroine's relations with Le Govain innocent, whereas the author makes them guilty; indeed, it only matters at all in so far as the lover is thus transformed from a knave into a fool.

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Whatever M. Bernstein may have thought of the bowdlerizing of his drama as he watched its first London performance, he should have been pleased with the acting. Mr. Bourchier is always at his best in characters in which virility has to struggle against social awkwardness, and he suggests to the life the parvenu's desire to please, and the strong man's joy—when he is roused—in his own masterfulness. Miss Violet Vanbrugh naturally

finds a difficulty in reconciling the vagaries of a heroine who through three acts of a play is in love with one man, and then invites the advances of the husband she has hitherto repelled, merely out of admiration of his will-power and capacity for self-sacrifice; still, she gives an idea of the woman's fastidious refinement, and she has one or two cries which set the nerves of her hearers quivering. Mr. Bryant puts a surprising amount of individuality into the part of the lover. Miss Edyth Latimer's sketch of Le Goeuvain's unhappy victim is full of colour and vitality. Mr. Kenneth Douglas, in he looks a little too vigorous, strikes the right comedy note in the speeches of the heroine's degenerate brother; and Miss Marie Illington and Mr. Whitby as titled folk who require no other qualification than wealth in their son-in-law play amusingly, but perhaps err somewhat on the side of farce. The burden of the interpretation, however, falls on Mr. Bourchier's shoulders, and he carried through "Samson's" task with a dogged resolution that is in keeping with the associations of that name.

LYRIC.—*The Chief of Staff: a Play in Four Acts.* By Ronald MacDonald.

The playwright who can trick out a hero in picturesque garb and enable him to figure in scenes of adventure and peril can show him foiling conspirators and successfully defying half a dozen enemies; can secure him a good supply of rhetoric and a succession of love-scenes, is the man to please Mr. Lewis Waller's admirers and to suit the actor's style. Mr. MacDonald has done this much in 'The Chief of Staff,' and to that extent merits congratulations. Moreover, he has laid his scenes in a not too familiar atmosphere, that of a South American republic; and he has given Mr. Waller rather a novel part, that of a soldier who has the reputation of being a strong, hard man. Certainly he is ruthless with men he considers dangerous; but he is weak, deplorably weak, with women.

So far good, but we pine for more incident and less talk. All the characters are exasperatingly long-winded, the women especially, and more scenes are needed like that of the third act, in which the hero, finding himself and his sweetheart cornered by a gang of ruffians, whips out his apparently disabled arm from a sling, and shoots three men dead just as help arrives. Mr. MacDonald however, wastes too much time on Col Cavendish's love-affairs. True, the closing tableau of the first act furnishes a rather piquant imbroglio, for there we find the President's daughter, a cool, watchful girl, saving her young stepmother from the results of a flirtation with the chief of staff by throwing herself into his arms and so confronting her angry father. From the engagement thus begun and the relations of the lovers there might have resulted complications inconsistent with the conventions of romance. But not unwisely, the author lets the old flirtation languish, turns the affections of the wife

into legitimate channels, and offers us the prospect of a more innocent courtship for the colonel.

Mr. Waller makes love gallantly, and looks handsome in his uniform, but he has to play too long a waiting game. More chances fall to Miss Evelyn D'Alroy, who produces with her charming, low-toned voice an effect of singular sincerity, and shows a pretty sense of humour in the heroine's share of the love-scenes. Miss Auriol Lee, suggests happily a languorous, warm-blooded woman of the South; and the author is well served by Mr. Haviland, Mr. George, and Mr. Shiel Barry.

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WITHIN a fortnight of his brother's death the less famous of the Coquelins, Coquelin cadet, has followed Coquelin aîné to the grave. He was removed some months ago to a private asylum at Suresnes, and it was hoped that rest might bring about complete mental recovery. For some days he was kept in ignorance of his brother's death, but towards the end of last week the news was broken to him with all possible care. At once he seemed to lose the desire to live, and he died suddenly on Monday morning at the age of sixty-one. He only retired from the Comédie Française in the autumn of 1907, and hopes were entertained of his return to the stage.

LIKE his elder brother, Ernest Coquelin was intended for his father's bakery business, but he insisted on adopting Constant's profession. After a rather prolonged course at the Conservatoire he made his début at the Opéra in 1867, and a year later appeared at the Comédie Française. He gained a considerable reputation as a comedian, though his art was never comparable with that of Coquelin aîné. Perhaps his best-known part was Frederic in 'L'Ami Fritz,' but he often played "seconds" to his elder brother. He had a special talent for the rendering of monologues, and he has left several books to his name. During the Franco-German War he served at the front, and won a medal for gallantry.

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